



# ONE WOMAN WANDERING.

OR

### EUROPE ON LIMITED MEANS.

BY

MARION FLOWER HICKS HARMON.

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TO THE LONE ONES IN THE LAND,

ESPECIALLY TO THE

SOLITARY SISTERS,

IS THIS

VOLUME

CORDIALLY DEDICATED.



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## ONE WOMAN WANDERING

#### CHAPTER I.

Not because I was especially fitted either by nature, education or habit, to paddle my own canoe, not because I had no desire for, or any objection to, a compagnon du voyage, did I suddenly determine last year to venture forth alone into the rushing tide of foreign travel that has of late periods set so strongly toward the Old World. But like many another woman I had been bereft of all that life and love hold dear, and at a mature age was left stranded solitary, with a slender though assured provision for that future which now stretched blankly before me. What could so completely occupy my attention and employ my energies as a trip abroad?

But was this among the possibilities? No ties had I to bind me here or elsewhere; no household to maintain in my absence; no reason why the modest sum necessary for my personal expenses should not be expended abroad instead of in my native land. Would this be sufficient?

I began to investigate.

My first step was to write to various Tourist Agencies, whose name is legion, requesting such information as each could furnish concerning routes, rates, outfits, and the like. I may say in passing that I ever received most courteous attention to my inquiries. I thus accumulated

a mass of material much of which was valuable, and my vague design began to take form substance before me. My little fund would take me across, provide for my return in case of emergency, and keep me in unpretending comfort until I could receive supplies from home. But— I must go alone; I could pay no companion or True, there were several excursions advertised to which my available cash would admit me as a member, but these were of but two or three months' duration and seemed to consist of one grand scramble from beginning to end, in making trains and taking wildly hurried glimpses of a few noted scenes and masterpieces. So I came to the conclusion that one could see and learn most by traveling independently, thus being hampered by no contracts or limits as to time and place. Could I do this all by myself, in a foreign land amid a foreign tongue, I who had lived all my life in the seclusion and protection of the home-circle? But the dear homecircle was forever vanished. Life was ended along that line. Wherever I might be I was alone and must live inexpensively; I was ready fairly familiar with my own land. Europe even commonplace environments would be new and interesting to me. I would go.

I did go and for many months wandered alone but safely through storied scenes and classic shades of varied beauty and interest, returning at last with a host of delightful recollections to beguile many an otherwise weary day, and with the resolve to promulgate as far as possible among the "lone sisters" in my own country, such practical knowledge of ways and means as I acquired myself in my journeyings, so that any one of them, finding through untoward events that the "days are dark and dreary," might

feel it possible to take her courage in her hands and go and do likewise. And so I begin my record.

In almost any town of a few thousand inhabitants one may purchase a through ticket of the principal Steamship Companies, to almost any point abroad. I. however, took my ticket from one of the Tourist Agencies in order that I might feel at liberty to call upon the local office wherever I might be, for protection or advice, have the benefit of its banking facilities, bureaus of information and the like. This idea proved all right in the main, but at first, as I shall explain later, I had reason to believe that all my provisions in these respects were as unsubstantial as the baseless fabric of a dream. I did not take a passport as there are few European countries where they are essential, but in the light of my later experience, I should take one if going account of the convenience as a again, on means of identification when such becomes necessary. The cost, I believe is two dollars.

The Agency of which I finally bought my tickets, as an inducement for me to do so, promised to have a man meet me in Chicago to give me all necessary aid in transfer, -my starting point was about seven hours distant,—and another man at the New York terminus to take charge of myself and luggage, and to see that it and I were safely placed on board the steamship in good order and at no extra charge unless in the way of monetary exchange. These promises gave me great satisfaction, and it was well that they did, for it was all I had; inasmuch as, so far as attendance was concerned, this Agency, -I will not, as I might, take so cruel a revenge upon it as to publish its name abroad, -almost entirely failed to make good its engagements.

I descended from the train in Chicago, bag in hand, refusing offered attendance as I supposed I was provided for; but, trudging along over the long platform to the transfer 'buses, no sign of a tourist agent did I see. Inquiries right and left were of no avail. There was only one hour and three quarters between trains, but, though my ticket included transfer through Chicago I could not go directly on, because my money had not yet been converted into foreign funds, and I had still much promised instruction to receive. After a moment of indecision I took a 'bus to

the Agency.

Perhaps my inexperienced country woman would like to learn that in Chicago all authorized transference facilities are in the hands of one organization, the Parmelee Line. In purchasing tickets that necessitate a change in Chicago, one should stipulate for a transfer coupon. Then, on presenting the same to any of Parmelee's men, who are always on hand, one has no difficulty in finding one's proper convevance. On my doing this and stating that I wished to interview my tourist agent before going to the other station, the attendant kindly informed me that he would drop me at the right place en route. This he did, but by stopping I was of course obliged to lose the benefit of my coupon, besides having all bother and uncertainty of looking up agent.

But I found and sternly confronted him with my demand for advice and exchange. The official had the grace to seem surprised at my appearing there alone, and tried to explain that a man had been sent to meet me but "probably

had got a little behind time."

Minutes were precious and I wasted none in reproaches but proceeded to business. The agent recommended putting the most of my funds in circular notes of English money, as available to be cashed in any foreign currency on presenting a letter of identification which he also gave me, at any place where I should be likely to go.

Reserving enough of the balance to provide for my expenditures to and in New York (lity. he put the remainder into French money as I was sailing on a French ship to a French port. At this date, an American, or rather, a United States' dollar was worth a little more than five French francs, four German marken, or four English shillings. Here let me warn my unsophisticated sister against ever confusing the English shilling with the value recognized under that name in the United States. The United States shilling is simply unheard of and unknown abroad, (as it ought to be at home for it does not exist in our money table ) and whereever the term shilling is used it always, without exception, signifies the English shilling twelve pence or twenty-four United States cents. I mention this because I saw so many cases where unfortunate Americans were hopelessly confused on account of persisting in using the term shilling to represent twelve and a half cents, to the great mystification of their foreign hearers.

Regarding exchange and letters of credit, any banker would do the service quite as well as a Tourist Agency, and in many cases it might be preferable to have it done at home by one's acquaintances; but, going alone as I was, I deemed it better, as I mentioned before, to have as much claim as possible on the attention of some well-known corporation as easily accessible abroad as at home. But all this is a matter of expediency.

I made particular inquiries of the agent, as to how to escape in New York the difficulties that had presented themselves in Chicago, as in New York I should be more helpless, never having embarked for a foreign tour and not knowing just what to do, nor even whether a woman alone would be capable of doing everything. But I was assured there was no possibility of my missing their man there, that the Company had in uniform with the name of Agency in large letters, to meet all trains, that I could not fail to see them, that everybody knew the agency-men, and moreover they had been advised to look out for me, and so on. I departed comforted, with a man,—in this instance a nice, friendly lad,—detailed to put me on the New York train, see to my sleeper and so forth, all of which he did politely and efficiently, and I was soon rolling away toward New York.

The hours went on; night came and went and the darkness of the second evening closed in upon us, for not until eight P. M., were we within the confines of "the great city." A baggage-man appeared—as on all through trains nearing a terminus, to whom one may give one's checks with perfect safety, receiving a claimticket in return—and soon my luggage would be on its way to the steamer-docks where I would find it in the morning.

At eight forty-five, we stopped in the Grand Central Station of New York City. I walked out confidently expecting to be accosted at once by my promised messenger but, alas, he did not materialize. I looked about here and there, backward and forward, right and left, in fact in every direction except heavenward,—which last, in consideration of the nature of my past experiences,

seemed futile to do.—but no one did I see who had apparently the least concern as to my welfare. No uniformed men except the trainmen and the red-capped porters, all of whom declared total ignorance concerning the agency-men, did not even know their uniform; such also was the result of my inquiries in the waiting rooms and at the Bureau of Information. The fact was that I had simply been allowed to arrive with no attention provided whatever. I dwell upon this point because the Agency had been so lavish in proffers and promises both verbal and written, that I had had no anxiety whatever on leaving home, and had I not been warned by my experience in Chicago, should have relied on them implicitly. And I feel moved to declare that I consider the Agency's course as a culpable breach of confidence, from which the consequences in the case of an unaccustomed traveler. a lady, arriving alone at night in this great, modern Babel, might have been deplorable in nervous strain if nothing more. I will say that, some months later, I received a most polite letter of regret and apology from the Agency, but this, though gratifying, hardly served to atone for the neglect. Fortunately for me, I was in a measure familiar with the place, so I picked up my satchel and went across the street to a wellknown hotel where I obtained a comfortable room on the parlor floor at one dollar a day without meals. In the restaurant attached, one may consider one's purse in ordering from the The rates seem high to a resident of a town of thirty thousand inhabitants, and if one is desirous of keeping expenses down still farther, one may go out across the street to a most attractively bright and clean eating-house, where wholesome and appetizing food is served

at surprisingly moderate charges. All this for the benefit of that "lone sister" whom I have

in my mind's eye in writing these lines.

At the hotel I tried to telephone the Tourist Agency. "Office closed for the night," was the report, so I betook me to my couch thinking I should certainly get word in the morning. course city offices are rarely open before nine, A. M., but as the next was a "sailing morning" the hotel manager thought I would find the agency men on hand early. So I tried at seven, A. M. "Closed." The steamer was to sail at ten and I was I knew not how far away. At any rate all the way from Forty-second street zigzaggedly across the city to Morton's Pier. No use to go personally to the office as it was closed. The hotel manager was kind and interested and gave me as good advice as he possessed, but of course he could not speak with authority. Finally, partly because time was slipping away and partly because, in classic phrase, "my spunk was up," I decided that if worst had come to worst, I was equal to the emergency of getting off for Europe alone, or anywhere else, and that no effete tourist agent should, by his indifference or inefficiency, compel me to lose my passage, nor entail upon me unneccessary additional expense. So, as economy was the order of the day, I did not even call a cab but boarded a Fourth Avenue car. I knew my way pretty well and was burdened only with my handbag.

At Fourteenth Street I took a transfer to the pier. When I presented my ticket to the transfer-man he vociferated violently and offensively, as if I were offering him a personal insult, "That hain't no good! Yer gotto pay another fare!" I was not at all appalled at his demeanor nor did

I "lose my head" or temper, though it certainly was not my fault that I had a wrong transfer nor had I objected to paying a second fare though entitled to transfer. I do not understand why these street-car employes are so ready to deem that a gentlewoman in appearance and speech deserves brow beating and crushing when she is merely trying to follow the routine of the road so far as she comprehends it; but such is too frequently the case and I only mention it here and my reception of the same, as a possible aid to the "solitary sister" when she "will a-wandering go." I let the fellow expend his rudeness without remonstrance and when he had quite ceased speaking I civilly asked him to kindly show me which car to take; he had evidently keved himself up to receive a torrent of expostulation on my part, and when none came he seemed dazed for a moment, then acceded to my request in a manner comparatively calm, and I went on slowly but surely toward Morton Pier. I was the sole passenger when the car reached the end of the route and here it was my good fortune to encounter so kind and gentlemanly a young man, albeit in the guise of a conductor, that I almost felt like forgiving the before-mentioned surly brute in consideration of his being a co-employè of this young man. Of course he could not leave his car but he pointed out where I must go and told me just what to do and was so interesting and painstaking that if we had been, as I was later, in a foreign land, I should have "tipped" him well for his civility; as it was, I would not insult his manhood by offering to pay him for being polite to a woman.

It was now nine o'clock. Steamer to sail at ten. I rushed across the tracks, before and behind cars, carts and quadrupeds, ignoring the surprised glances of everybody at seeing a wandering woman dashing about utterly unattended in that busy and hubbubby place. I felt a sort of unholv glee in getting on so independently of that faithless agency man, who was probably at this moment reading his morning paper and toasting his toes at ease before his fire, imagining that I must await his pleasure. I made my way into the great building placarded, Compagnie Général Atlantique, where my smattering of French enabled me to read the signs and labels about, and I was able with few questions to get my luggage, send it aboard by means of three men whom I paid twenty-five cents each, (which payment I afterward learned was entirely unexpected and unnecessary,) and finally I walked up the gang-plank myself and stood apon the deck of La Champagne.

I have thus detailed these trivial incidents, not because of their interest but to give the "inexperienced sister" some idea of transportation at small expense. I rather enjoyed it on the whole, but if the "sister" is timid or nervous, she would better take a cab for the pier, at her hotel door. Rates are high and though the hotel manager will procure for one a trusty driver, it is quite necessary to have an explicit understanding as to terms, before one starts.

I will not deny that emotions of new and varied sorts filled my breast as I looked down from the deck upon the swaying crowds, the infinite diversity of faces and figures, the cabs coming and going, the incessant stream of ladies, gentlemen, porters, seamen, children, dogs and so forth, passing and repassing up and down the plank, and heard the continually repeated screeching of whistles and jangling of bells mingled with shouts and cries, with the rush

and roll of carriage and cart, of barrel and cask, the dumping and thud of box and bale and chest and all the innumerable stock and store of a ship's cargo, and reflected that I had succeeded in "getting there" all on my own responsibility. And I began to felicitate myself that I alone had attended to everything and still had plenty of time. Then I noticed a party coming up with bags and bundles and steamer chairs.

Scissors and teapots! I had forgotten my steamer chair! A glance at my watch, -nine twenty-five, -steamer sails at ten! Back again down the plank—a mad rush for the bureau—a wild demand in impossible French for the desired article. Rent, a United States "dollaire" for the round trip. No money but French-offer a five franc piece supposing it an equivalent rejected as not enough-nothing else but goldfrantically hold out a handful, whereupon the commissionaire takes pity on me and pushes it back, accepting my silver piece and kindly saying in broken English: "Teez owanlee troah sonts, navaire mynde." Whereby I learn that the current value of a five franc piece at the Bureau Transatlantique, is ninety-seven cents; though if you offer a dollar for something valued at five francs, you get no change in return.

I hurriedly gave the man my name and sped back. Again looked at my watch; nine fifty. Plenty of time and everything really ready at last. Later on I find myself transformed by the label on my chair, into "Madame Heexheimer."

I may as well say here that this expense of a chair was in my case entirely unnecessary. It being winter, there was no especial temptation to sit on deck, as if one wished to be outside it was much pleasanter to move about. Moreover

there were plenty of benches on deck if one chose to sit. I used my chair but twice, and then only because I thought it the regulation thing to do. As I had not decided to return by this line, I lost the benefit of my round trip payment and by engaging a chair I became liable to the deck-steward for a fee, whether service were rendered or not.

In summer, when there are many passengers and the weather is fine, a chair may be most desirable, but in this instance I might have made a clear saving of at least two dollars had I been familiar with the situation. I may note here also that since my outward bound passage, there has been a change in the method of renting these chairs and one now must pay a dollar a voyage instead of for round trip, as before. All of which I commend to the consideration of my imaginary "lone woman."

And now it is ten o'clock and the great steamer begins to quiver. We all know the

couplet:

"She moves, she stirs, she seems to feel A thrill of life along her keel!"

and a dozen other lines as apropos will spring to mind. The little tug was noisily doing its duty. The pier was a sea of upturned faces and waving handkerchiefs.

"Good-bye!"

"Adieu!"
"Lebewohl!"

"Good luck to you!"

"Bon vouage!"

"Glueckliche Reise!"

Some were laughing, some were in tears, all were excited, and a responsive throng on deck gave back farewell, smile and tear.

I stood apart. I was alone. The good-byes and good wishes were not for me. No one there knew of me. It was rather a melancholy thought; and yet there was a bright gleam of satisfaction in the reflection that, being there thus alone and by my own unaided efforts, I was under no sort of an obligation to waft even the most formal of farewells to that inert and ever elusive tourist agent.

#### CHAPTER II.

At last we were abroad upon the mighty deep. Gradually we had made our way out from the slips, piers and docks and from the crowds of shipping of every description and nationality. Out away from the marvelous span of Brooklyn Bridge and from the majestic statue towering above the busy harbor and forever lifting toward high heaven the deathless torch of liberty. Out away between shores wharf-lined and covered as far as eye could reach with street on street of structure, lofty and low, proud and plebeian, rich and wretched, and permeated everywhere by seemingly the same restless, rushing, hurrying throng, until by and by the fields and hedgerows began to appear, pervaded even now with a faint, subtile shade of green; soon we passed the various isles that dot the harbor, the old fort on Staten Island standing out phenomenally distinct, and then suddenly the fog closes in and shuts out all the world. Reluctantly we abandon our posts of outlook and pass inside to make acquaintance with that interior where we shall eat, drink and sleep for so many days.

Surprising indeed is the spectacle we behold. All is bewilderment and confusion. Everybody seems to be in every other body's way. The poor people in the steerage, of whom we get occasional glimpses in our present futile attempts to find out "where we are at," are huddled together amid their forlorn "bits of things," like a flock of frightened sheep and look sad and pitiable. The second-cabiners are as yet un-

separated from the first; everyone is more or less unsettled, even the old stagers, -or should I say "shippers?"—to whom a sea voyage is but the veriest episode. Shouts and commands in a foreign tongue and the inability of the ship's company to understand our American French, add to the general distraction. We find later that most of the crew speak good English, but this fact has not as yet dawned upon our perturbed brains. Bags and bundles of all sorts are heaped in apparently inextricable disorder, laying traps for unwary feet. Dogs and children are trotting about astray and lifting their several voices in howls in various keys and of varying intensity. Birds, large and small, are shricking in dismay from divers and sundry cages, and amid all is heard the thud, thud of the steamer's machinery as it steadily beats out the revolutions that, God guiding, shall pause not nor delay till we reach the strange shores so far distant.

As a temporary diversion the cabin passengers are very soon summoned to an informal luncheon while the ship's force indefatigably toils to bring order out of chaos. And here may I caution my unsophisticated "solitary sister," as a possible preventive of sea-sickness, to partake sparingly through the first day at least, of the abundant and tempting fare provided on the great ocean-liners?

The striking of "deep water" is usually the crucial test of one's powers as a "good sailor," and one who escapes this ordeal will probably pass along almost unaffected to the other side.

The work goes untiringly on; wandering mortals find their cabins; weeping women are consoled and irate men pacified; timid passengers are encouraged, while stray children and pets

reach their proper owners, and at last, by the time the electric lights leap forth and we are bidden to our evening meal, a semblance at least of order and regularity reigns in the brilliant dining-room, or salle-á-manyer, as we are taught to consider it. The western continent has dropped below the horizon and we begin really and truly to be rocked in the cradle of the

deep.

The first day out, as customary, we were each assigned a seat at table, and given a sailing list. Here I found I had undergone another transformation and was now figuring as Hanson." Others, however, had similar surprises and it was like solving a puzzle to find out which name belonged to whom, and what it really should be instead of what it was. ent ships have different methods of arranging the sittings at table. On La Champagne, a very polite steward called at each stateroom door and asked if the occupants thereof had any choice as to seats; if so, they were gratified if possible, and to each person was handed a card with a number corresponding to that on his chair at table.

At my table are a Mlle.H., of New York City, whose name is not on the list at all, a Mr. and Mrs. M., of Berkeley, California, and a Senor U., of Le Havre. Mlle. H. and Mr. M. speak both French and English; Mrs. M., only English; Senor U., Spanish and French, so when we are all there we manage to keep up quite a continuous conversation, the learned ones interpreting for the less so. Scarcely anyone on a French steamer appears before dejéuner (pronounced "deh-zhoon-eh," with no accent,) a sort of heavy luncheon about eleven o'clock. The first repast is truly a "break-fast," being but a roll

without butter, and a cup of "coffee with milk," served usually in one's cabin before one rises. There is, I understand, a meal called the "American breakfast," provided for such incorrigible natives as are unable to fall into foreign ways, but this is alien to the general atmosphere; individually, I took very kindly to the custom of keeping my berth until the first warning bell

sounded half an hour before déjeuner.

It so chanced that Senor U. and myself usually appeared first at our table and frequently finished our meal before any of our table-mates came in. As he spoke neither English nor German and I had no Spanish and but a smattering of French, and as the politeness of his nationality, I suppose, would not permit him to sit in a lady's presence with no effort to entertain her, many desperate attempts were made by us to evolve some method of communication; but it all resolved mainly into an assiduous offering of each to the other of whatever was within reach, accompanied by a series of "nods becks and wreathed smiles" whenever caught the other's eyes. I shall always remember him as a most painfully courteous man, and I dare say he will long recollect his arduous endeavors in my behalf.

The table was excellent, served carefully in French table d'hôte style, that is, only one thing at a time, which I do not like, as I prefer my meat with my vegetables. Also I like butter on my bread and cream in my tea and coffee, which preferences astonish the French caterer. If he serves you with butter at all it is unsalted and given you upon a plate the size of the ordinary dinner-plate. If you insist on cream with your coffee, he brings you a concoction which he calls "café-au-lait" wherein the milk which

does duty as cream, is boiled with the coffee, and with it he brings a tablespoon; I verily believe the French consider it a sort of soup. And as to tea, the drinking of it at all seems to be conceived as springing from a mild aberration of the English and the American mind, and one is looked upon with surprise, not to say suspicion, if one declines the cognac that is always brought on with it and the tiny cup of "black coffee" served at the close of dinner. Then again, I do not like wine of any sort as a beverage, especially the thin, sour vin ordinaire that is so universal and tastes very like poor vinegar. Nor am I especially fond of the cheeses and sauces which are served so abundantly, but of course all this soon becomes a matter of custom.

It seemed odd to have knife, fork and plate removed with each article of food. I will not deny having been accustomed to the ordinary changes between courses, but the fashion of having as many plates, knives and forks as there are articles on the bill of fare, was new to me. Nor did I ever before see ice-cream made into a large roll, like butter, and passed about on a platter, each person helping himself and being provided with a desert spoon for consuming it. I do not remember ever before having seen snails on a menu, so I thought I would try some. garçon brought me a plateful apparently au naturel in their shells and looking "quite too awfully" snaily. He brought with them an implement suggestive of Hamlet's bare bodkin, with which one is supposed to manipulate the shells to get at their contents. I made one or two attempts, then finally begged the waiter to prepare them for me, which he deftly did, bringing them back sans shells and looking exactly like a tiny "mess o' greens." I tasted them and

found them delicious in spite of preconceived

prejudices.

Our dinners are quite long in course and served about seven in the evening. Lights are generally extinguished in the salon about eleven; in our staterooms we have the privilege, not always granted on ship-board, of turning the electricity off and on to suit our convenience, but a placard most politely worded requests us to use our illumination as sparingly as possible.

So hour after hour goes on monotonously enough, and day after day finds us, our little community of some four or five hundred souls, struggling onward in this wide waste of waters where for days and nights we are encompassed by the same unchanging, impenetrable, white mist. The great fog horn sounds at intervals of one minute, night and day. Once forth from out the darkness comes a response, but where away in that vast, outstretching region of cloud and mist there rides another vessel, we have no means of knowing. Strong head-winds that yet have no perceptible effect on the density of the fog, make our progress difficult and slow.

The huge waves roar and rave and thunder around, below and above us and beat at our ship's sides, but she is staunch and they do not enter. At last, one night we hear an unusual shock, the vessel shakes and shivers, settles herself again, then quivers laterally and from end to end. I feel sure that we have run down something and, lying there in my snug cabin, I try to picture the scene without on the dark, tossing occon. But though there is some increase of hourse commands and heavy, hurried footsteps above, I hear no alarm and address myself again to sleep. In the morning we learn that we have lost a part of our screw and from

that time on, we have a sort of compound wiggle and jiggle and jerk added to the ordinary roll and tumble of a steamer in difficult seas, which is rather too much for the equanimity of many of our company. Our ship labors bravely on however and all is well save the inevitable cases of mal-de-mer which one, of course, expects. Our salle-û-manger is mostly deserted, by the

ladies especially,

Personally I escape all illness, which is a matter of surprise and congratulation. Even while the steamer rises to meet the oncoming wave, or pitches downward into the trough of the billows, or rolls from side to side, am I able to stand either above on deck or below at the portholes which are continually first plunged into the depths and then lifted dizzily aloft, and to gaze out on the "multitudinous seas" as they swell and sweep and wrestle and leap and break into feathery spray far heavenward, and to enjoy the spectacle and marvel over its beauty.

At length one evening we note that the "dead-lights" are down and at dinner the tables are a network of racks and bars to keep the dishes in place, which all betokens heavier We make inquiries and find we are about to enter the "Devil's Hole," which is always, as they term it, "a nasty place." this time we have scarcely seen the sun. Ever the same white, cottony fog, with the green waves breaking through to grin at us. I begin to realize what it must have been when the "earth was without form and void." told that the voyage is always tiresome and difficult at this time of the year until we get away from the "Banks of Newfoundland,"-not meaning the shores of that country but certain areas of the ocean,—after which we shall probably have smoother seas and fairer skies: and if we can only escape the clutches of His Satanic Majesty while invading his "Hole" to night, to-morrow we may hope for better things. So

we go on and on and on.

Day comes again and we find we have left the Devil behind us and by the next day the fog lifts and the sun appears. Not long does he bless us, however, for it comes on to rain, and thus almost continually under cloud and storm do we make our passage. We see a steamer on a distant track and exchange salutes. We learn many days later that shortly after leaving us she encountered a waterspout which we barely escaped. We have no excitement. We see no whales nor icebergs. There is little or nothing to distinguish one point of time from another except the daily posting of the ship's progress in the main companion-way, and the setting forward of our watches forty minutes each noontide.

Very strange it seemed day after day to see only the same persons, to do only the same things and to move about only in the same places. La Champagne is a very comfortable, somewhat luxurious, but not very modern vessel. To my surprise there is neither reading-room nor library. I am told there is none on any of the French liners though a little cupboard on La Champagne, containing perhaps fifty volumes of French and English novels which one may purchase at fifty cents each, is dignified by that name. We are, of course, cut off from newspapers and it really becomes a matter of charity in one possessed of any sort of literature, to circulate it among his or her needy neighbors.

Judging from my own experience and the difficulty I had in obtaining really suitable and practical suggestions regarding an outfit that

should be sufficient but not superfluous, I fancy my imaginary "woman and sister" may desire to know something about what is necessary for such a journey as mine. Let her bear in mind that a ship is the merest atom of light and warmth upon the awful ocean, and that the ocean is always cold. Moreover, there forever do "the winds their revels keep." I found, as nearly every inexperienced ocean-traveler does find, that I took much more than I needed. One's traveling garb should be as heavy as one can wear without weariness. One will need in winter, leggins and 'overshoes and close, warm underclothing. Tights are almost indispensable. A hot-water-bag is also very desirable. A long, loose outer garment with hood attached and furlined, is most convenient, as is also a similar garment or "domino" of light weight, likewise with hood, which one can wear about if one is ill, without troubling with hair-dressing. needs a warm steamer-rug and one or two private cushions are very comfortable. The rug may be represented perfectly by a large blanketshawl. Of course if one could count on never being ill, many of these provisions would be superfluous; but on this point one can never be assured and must prepare accordingly. If one is ill, the quickest and usually the only way to recover is to be out on deck regardless of weather or inclination. Frequently one must be carried above by stewards and placed comfortably and safely in a sheltered nook to let the cold, pure sea-winds do their reviving work.

The cabins at best are but stuffy places. There are none with but one berth and to one's own distresses may be added the moving spectacle of a room-mate in serious case. So I consider full equipment for warmth and comfort on

deck, to be a necessity, though thus far I have not needed it myself. My cabin held two berths, but on account of the season of the year, I was able to occupy it alone, to my never-ceasing thankfulness. I took my steamer-trunk, my two grips and my roll of wraps into the cabin with me but I should never do so again. If I had had a room-mate, I do not know where her things could have rested. I find that one gets out of one's cabin as soon as possible after rising, and elaborate toilets are uncalled for.

Perhaps it is as well to have a light waist or two accessible in case of an evening concert or other entertainment, such as are frequently gotten up if the voyage is reasonably pleasant. But the woman to whom I am specially addressing myself is not going abroad to display her wardrobe, or as a little friend of mine once remarked, to "cut a gash," and I think she will be relieved to take as little as possible. I have known ladies going abroad for a summer vacation to take only a bicycle dress and a traveling gown. The woman traveling with an escort, or a young girl properly chaperoned, might find it no trouble to have a little more variety, but it is not necessary and some question whether it be good taste. I learned the lesson to send in future everything unessential, to the hold.

Baths, of course, may be had on application to the steward. While these are not extra in themselves, a tip is due to the attendant at the end of the voyage. One may patronize the steamer hair-dresser or do one's locks one's self; but let me warn my sister with a "bang," that no hair-curing appliances are allowed in the cabins, and when we consider what an unspeakable horror is a fire at sea, I know that none of us will question the wisdom of this regulation.

Besides the bath-room steward and the hairdresser, the other attendants on the usual oceanliner are the stewardess—who will wait upon you if you desire but who does not attend to your cabin-the bedroom steward, the deck steward and the dining-room steward, that is your special waiter at meals. A steamship is usually divided into sections, each of which has its own retinue of servants. In La Champagne, a vessel of eight thousand tons, there were two sections. Of course a passenger is under no obligations as to tips to those serving in any section but his own. If one requires much service, one is supposed to tip more liberally than otherwise, but what has become an established custom so far as I could learn, is to present one's stewardess, one's table steward and the deck steward each with about two dollars and a half on leaving the ship.

In my case on La Champagne, the stewardess had no occasion to perform any service whatsoever for me, but she received my tip on the morning of debarkation with all the serenity of long-

tried and deserving merit.

And again in regard to one's outfit, let the "lone female" also remember that in France and other "warm countries," the houses are cold and damp though the outer air may be soft and mild, so that it becomes more essential than with us, to dress warmly within doors, particularly at night. A warm bedroom-gown and slippers are really a necessity the greater part of the year.

Of course I do not learn all these items at once, but as I go along; if they lighten up the matter for any who may come after me, I shall

be well pleased.

But we were getting on, and lo! one evening,

away off over the heavy expanse of waters could be seen a tiny gleam of light that alternately shone and disappeared. Yes, there was the long looked-for beacon, there were the Scilly Isles, there was solid land after these many days.

That last evening, according to a time-honored custom, was served what is called "the Captain's dinner," though in reality given by the transportation company, at which unusual delicacies are spread, with unlimited champagne. Mirth and good-fellowship abound, and with the dessert on the present occasion was served an assortment of fancy "pop-crackers" which, on being pulled out, developed into a collection of fantastic head-riggings, high and low caps of all varieties, sombreros, capotes, helmets, and the heads of all sorts of animals. Each person donned his own, and we all marched about the salon in majestic style at the close of the feast.

The next morning the shores of France, snow-covered and looking in the distance much like the southern shores of Lake Superior, were distinctly visible on the right, and a few hours later, on the left, also. The bold outlines of Le Havre soon rose to view and we entered the wide harbor with its great solid piers and massive masonry.

To our intense disappointment the tide was out and it became necessary to land us in a tender. We watched it putting out from the pier, dancing up and down through the waves and seeming indeed like the veriest toy in comparison with the huge steamer on which we stood.

The transference was a long and most tedious process. First came the steerage passengers from below. Such a "motley crew," with bundles of clothes and bedding and household effects. Poor things, they looked pale and ill; no doubt

our rough voyage which had so tried even us who were more comfortably lodged and fed, had caused them to suffer severely. Then the occupants of the second cabin, who were most respectable in appearance. Last, the "first classers"

were called upon to "walk the plank."

It was not the pleasantest thing imaginable, either, to step out upon the swaying, bobbing concern that hung from our deck down to that of the little steamer below us, rising and falling with her as she courtesied to the motion of the waves which rolled all too apparently beneath, while a bitter wind tugged wildly at us as if to tear us from our slender support. But we all did it somehow, and were stowed away more or less comfortably on camp-chairs or benches or rolls of luggage, as the case might be.

Now, we supposed, we should soon be on shore, but to our inexpressible disgust, we were taken around to the other side of our ship, and there we had to wait, shivering and sneezing, until the whole amount of luggage from hold and cabins was transferred to the tender. Why this could not have been done first and the passengers taken on afterward, no one deigned to ex-

plain.

But now at last we are really in motion once more, and dance along over the choppy waves

toward the wharves of Le Havre.

High and picturesque the city lies back from the sea, with long lines of streets handsomely built after an old-world fashion, stretching away over the heights. Upon these heights, we are told, are the residences of the aristocracy, and the home of the president of the republic is pointed out to us. One of my co-voyagers, a young lady, exclaims: "Oh, do see the cute little French soldiers."

Surely enough, there they go marching down past the pier in their gay red and blue uniforms. Like boys they look, and boys, I presume, most of them are.

Our steamer is behind time and there is not much bustle over our arrival. We reach the pier, we mount the landing, and at last, after nine long days, once more we

## ——"take our stand On land, on solid land,"

albeit it is here covered with a moist unpleasant slush.

The claiming of luggage now takes place, a proceeding tiresome and, to the United States mind accustomed to checks, entirely unnecessary. They who, like myself, have through tickets to Paris, are saved this trouble as our packages went on in the special train which met us here. It was now about four o'clock and we could not reach Paris before midnight, so Mr. and Mrs. M. and myself decided to stay in Le Havre. cordingly we filed through one door into a waiting room which is indeed fitly named, as here we were obliged to wait a long time for our turn to have our hand-bags examined and to declare that we had no tobacco or silver; whereupon an attendant, in my case a fat, old woman, marked each piece with a chalk design, and we filed out again at an opposite door and into the street, where we stood for a few moments taking in our first impressions of an alien climate and a foreign shore.

#### CHAPTER III.

It was, on the whole, difficult to realize that we were really in France. In the first place, everything was heavily covered with snow, and this, I think, does not accord with one's mental pictures of France, ta belle, the land of vintage and perfume. To be sure, we were in the far north; to the south might smile verdant slopes and sunny skies. Then again, the throng of "raggedy men" and boys about the landing seemed much the same as at home; although they spoke excitedly in a foreign tongue and gesticulated in a foreign manner, the general effect was very similar. Our boat having been late, there were no vehicles awaiting us, and for the novelty of it we decided to walk on to seek a hotel, a small boy offering to carry our bags, pressing into service another little lad who "wanted to go along because he was his brother."

Off we went through the slush, the narrow streets reminding one of Old Boston; but the stalls of flowers here and there amid the snow, and the bareheaded women running about everywhere with, at most, but a muslin cap upon the head, did not seem at all familiar. Girls, men and boys were laughingly pelting each other with snow-balls in an eagerness and enjoyment that betokened an infrequent pastime.

Far to the left, overlooking the harbor and the open sea, is the great Hotel Frascati, famous for its baths and general festivities, and a favorite resort for both French and foreign in the season. We crossed a great stone bridge, skirted

around queer and angling corners, and soon came to a fine street with buildings of quaint but good architecture. We learn afterward that it is the Rue de Paris and that it stretches straight on, a beautiful avenue, to that city.

Following it we came to a little park; trees, statues, fountain and flower-stalls all looking out from the snow. This is the *Place Gambetta* 

fronting which stands our hotel.

It was dark when we reached it. Bare and chill enough seemed the tile-paved little rotunda in which was the bureau, or office, poorly lighted and with no perceptible heat. We were shown directly to our rooms, being preceded up the long, twisty, cold staircase, by a maid bearing,

to my amazement, a solitary candle.

Mr. M., who had been abroad before and was familiar with foreign "tricks and manners," was much amused at the horrified expression of his wife and myself. There was no elevator, they being only in the new and modernized places that are largely patronized by Ameri-The house itself was stately and imposing, but sadly deficient, to the modern idea, convenience and comfort. The hostess-it is always a hostess in the true foreign hostelry,told us the building was an old mansion of a noble family and built in the early part of the century, but had been used as a public house for about forty years. While the ceilings were exceedingly high and the walls adorned with frieze and arabesque in classic style, yet the passages-they could not be called halls, -were narrow and crooked and floor-clothed with something that looked like heavy, brown wrappingpaper. We noted a curious arrangement of folding panels in several of the rooms and were told that many of them were originally one, and

had been, in the course of events, made so that they might be shut off or thrown again into one, at will. For a generation perhaps, however, they had not been disturbed.

There was no light above the ground-floor,—which, by the way, is never the "first floor," as with us,—except by candles, (and these an "extra") and no heat unless specially ordered.

There happening to be but two chambers vacant on what we would call the second floor, the larger was given to my companions, and truly, it was a spacious apartment, I should think about twenty by thirty feet. The glittering white walls were chastely and beautifully ornamented in high relief; two great windows overlooking the park in front were composed of tiny panes and opened outward down the middle, as most foreign windows do. The wide mantle was of the whitest of marble tastefully sculptured, and all this space and grandeur was illuminated (!) by one little candle.

Mr. M. quickly perpetrated the great extravagance of ordering in two more, and a fire to be lighted in the tiny fireplace beneath the grand mantel, and we really felt quite festive. We were pleased to learn that these candles were the "very latest improved" and considered most superior in that they had each three holes down the center, "which obviated the dripping of the wax and secured a perfect draught." The idea of improving candles in this day and generation, tickled alike the fancies of Wisconsinite and

Californians.

I now retired to my chamber across the passage. I had not so much magnificence as my neighbors and I had but one candle. I did not believe that any number of "improved" candles could give as much light as one good lamp, so I inquired if I might have one.

"Ah! no. Madame, the hostess, was desolated, but there were none in the house; they were so very dangerous!" Then I resolved, as an experiment, to find out how much one really could see with one candle as our forefathers and mothers must often have done in the "good old days." So by its flickering flame I essayed to

take a survey of my apartment.

The floor was dark, bare with the exception of a heavy, soft rug before the bed, and polished to a perilous degree. My feeble luminary did not penetrate to the ceiling above. I groped my way to a kind of oblong structure with a marble slab on top, which stood at one side. Its use I could not conjecture but it suggested nothing so much as one of the old tombs around Trinity Church in New York City. Next came a quaint. narrow little table with spindly legs and a drawer. In this drawer were writing materials and a printed form in which "M. M., les voyageurs" were prayed "to have the goodness to be willing to fill up the blanks with names, surnames, ages, professions, birthplaces, habitual residences," and so forth and so forth. It was farther explained that this was "for the benefit of the police."

This made me feel "sort o' creepy," and as if some "Old Sleuth" might be upon my guilty track. Conquering my quakings, however, I proceeded. Next was an odd sort of toilettetable, marble-topped and with a folding lid, mirror-lined, which might be shut down over the top of the concern. In the morning I discovered another mirror on the wall but this was now lost in the gloom. There was the tiniest ewer and basin imaginable for their purpose, towels the same, soap-dish but no soap, (there never is any) and a bottle of drinking water; no ice to

be seen and none to be had on demand.

Close to the bed was a queer little piece of furniture, solid, square and also marble-topped, which I afterward learned was styled a *table de nuit*, though it looked nothing like a table; this,

of course, was for one's candle.

And then came the bed itself. It was a peculiar looking affair. High above it, showing faintly out from the obscurity, was a round canopy from which depended long, full curtains of a dusky red looped away in front. The bedstead was heavy and solid, and resembled a huge box on casters, though not wide enough for two occupants. It was built up with a sort of upholstered mattress and bolster, to a height nearly equal to my own. These were covered in a kind of gray damask linen and over this were linen sheets resembling homespun. Then blankets and spread as customary but over all this an immense cushion, in fact what the small boy might term "a young bed," of feathers or down, covered in red. As there was no way heating my chamber, this cushion looked very comfortable to me, though extremely odd. chair or two completed the furnishings so far as I was able to discern, and everything was most daintily fresh and clean. I then tried first to read, next to write by the candle but failed utterly. I will add here from after experience, that before my return a year later, I acquired the power to do both with perfect ease, and frequently used a candle in preference to gas. much for one's environment. But now, as I had been kindly invited by my neighbors to sit at their fire, I took my candle and bore it in to swell their state, and in the light of the four, and the glow of the coals we sat in a semi-circle about the hearth stone and talked of our native land.

## CHAPTER IV.

Next morning about eleven, we met at déjeuner which, as I noted before, is the first regular meal a Frenchman takes, having his caféau lait and petit pain, or roll, in his chamber at whatever hour he desires. At meals he drinks nothing but wine. But Mrs. M. and I could not accustom ourselves to the wine, so she ordered tea and I coffee. In paying our bill, we were surprised to find these charged as "extras." As the price of the wine was reckoned in with that of the meal, we had the privilege of paying for all these beverages. The charges at the hotel seemed light, but when in addition to the cost of my room, (eighty cents,) I had paid for service, twenty cents; candle, twenty cents; given a tip to maid and man, and still had had no fire nor serviceable light, I concluded I would rather pay United States prices and enjoy United States comforts. I was reminded of James de Mille's laughable exposition in his The Dodge Club, of the foreign system of charges and the schemes by which his characters protected their purses; one of which consisted in carrying off on their departure all the candleends in their rooms. I had not come to this as vet, however, so I left my pieces of improved illuminator to be charged up again to the next traveler.

Going out into the pleasant street, we were soon taking a drive in a comfortable carriage in which three, its full capacity, were allowed to ride as cheaply as one. Our coachman proved sociable and we picked up some bits of informa-

tion, not all new, but yet interesting.

Havre, or Le Havre, as the French call it, is a large and flourishing city of about one hundred and seventeen thousand inhabitants and, next to Marseilles, the most important town in France. It has extensive ship-building yards and sugarrefineries. It was formerly called Havre de Grâce, from a chapel of Notre Dame de Grâce founded by Francis I., in 1516, which is still to be seen in the Rue de Paris. The city has become much modernized of late, and has many fine edifices and wide, beautiful boulevards.

Bernardin St. Pierre, the author of Paul and Virginia, was a native of Havre and an artistic monument to his memory stands in the Rue de

Paris.

Some very handsome official buildings stand upon the Rue de Strasbourg, which stretches from the railway station on the east to the sea on the west.

The harbors and docks of this port are especially fine. At the principal dock, the Bassin de l'Eure, the huge transatlantic steamers lie at ease within its fifty acres area. This was ten years in construction and finished in 1856. The Bassin du Roi was excavated in 1669. The Canal de Tancarville was opened in 1887 and connects the Seine directly with this harbor and enables ships to escape the tidal wave in the estuary.

There are two cable railways and three electric tramways running out to points of interest, and little steamers ply three or four times daily to watering-places near by; all seem to be well

patronized.

On reaching the station we were permitted, on account of holding through tickets, to pass through and to enter our train without delay.

Funny little coaches we saw, of first, second and third class. In France, we learn, no one rides third class who can in any way acquire the price

of the higher grade.

We were about to take an ordinary first-class carriage when we were told that by paying one franc extra, (everywhere an extra!) we might occupy a coach with a toilette room. So to avail ourselves of this great privilege,—free to the poorest who rides in the United States,—we each disbursed our franc and stepped into the carriage designated, which stood at a level with the platform; and conveyances of this sort are fitly named 'carriages.'

It may chance that the "sister" for whom these lines are written has no clearer idea than I had myself, of the continental car, so I will describe this one which seemed to be regarded as

the acme of convenience.

We first note how small all the carriages are. Those with toilette-room are a trifle larger. A door on each side with window in upper half gives entrance and we find at the rear end two double seats like the usual horse-carriage seat, nicely upholstered in smooth, gray cloth, as are the walls of the vehicle itself.

Opposite the further seat and separated from it by the width of the door, is another double seat, and by the side of this a single one resembling a comfortable easy-chair. The occupants of these three places must ride backward. On each side of the door-windows is another of like size and all are lifted or lowered as the ordinary carriage-window may be, that is, by straps, and there are also straps as in carriages, by which to hold on. Curtains of soft blue cloth are looped back from the windows. In the center of the carriage-roof is a small, red lamp of about

two-candle power, which is all the light to be had in the darkest night. Around this another blue curtain is arranged to be drawn in case the traveler finds this illumination too brilliant for his comfort! Heat to a moderate degree, is supplied from below through a perforated strip of metal on which we rest our feet.

The compartment contained but seven places. Immediately at the left of the entrance on the right was a narrow lane leading forward, passing the wonderful toilette room, which, by the way, was of the most primitive kind, though containing a good but small mirror, -and along by a sort of inner compartment shut off by itself, which I presume corresponds to the "stateroom" in our sleepers at home. I caught a glimpse of the four occupants, all it would accommodate, as I glanced down the lane, and they did look funny enough shut up there in a box within a box. But I dare say they were quite content, inasmuch as they were thus divided from the "vulgar herd' as represented by four ladies three gentlemen in the rear section.

Smoking, it seems, is allowed in any of these carriages except a few reserved for ladies alone. Indeed I do not know but that it would be allowed there should any of the "lone females" desire the solace of the weed, but I presume in fact, that excluding men virtually excludes By the way, I have heard that there smokers. is a mild prejudice prevailing against these carriages, ladies seeming to feel that there is a suspicion of "old-maidism" attached to the occupants thereof, and often declining to enter the same for fear of falling under the ban. All these different styles of compartment are to be found usually in one train, so, reversing the old adage, "you takes your choice and you pays your

monev."

But now we are off and we speed away with a gentle motion, very comfortable. We see no conductor nor news-boy and are absolutely un-All the excitement we have is disturbed. occasioned by a violent altercation that takes place between three of our fellow-passengers. One, a stout, ruddy gentleman whom we English-Americans would unhesitatingly dub a German, but who was a citizen of the United States and deemed himself an "American" to the core, had been a passenger with us on our voyage. He also had stopped at the same hotel and was proceeding to Paris. The two others were a French lady and gentleman, probably residents in the vicinity. The stout man in conversing with Mr. M., dwelt forcibly and at length on the superiority of everything American, and evidently his remarks were understood and resented by the French couple, for suddenly, without warning and with the greatest vehemence, they burst into the conversation, but in French, and presumably threw down the gauntlet of all France before the champion of America.

He apparently with alacrity picked up the same, and then they had it back and forth, "hot and heavy," shouting, gesticulating, hurling at one another scathing glances of ineffable defiance and disdain, and seemingly on the point of coming to blows then and there. We watched them amazed, while Mrs. M. and I consulted as to the expedience of trying to interfere, when quite as suddenly their fury moderated, their voices modulated, and soon they were smiling blandly upon one another, exchanging gracious bows and probably also the most elaborate of compliments.

We are fairly under way and have gotten out

of the suburbs. How strange it seems, looking out at our first stop, to see the historic and poetic name of Harfleur above the station door! But its glories are departed and little is left of interest except a fine Gothic church attributed to Henry V., of England. Thirty-one miles from Havre we come to Yvetot, recalling that "King of Yvetot little known to fame," who

"slept exceeding well without glory."

We find less snow as we ride eastward, the country appearing much like the less mountainous portions of our eastern states. It looks somber and sere, but as we go farther inland the landscape brightens and the trees lose their shivery air. Picturesque homesteads with farmbuildings clustered closely about, mostly of neat, red brick nicely painted and picked out in contrasting colors, are seen on every hand, and occasionally an ancient, stone windmill comes into view, of the type familiar in their geographies to school-children, and totally unlike the modern water-pumping variety. These mills are round at base and conical in shape and have four great wings extending in as many rections. A Frenchman who has recently entered,—for our warlike couple has departed, -tells us that the mills are relics of the oldtime, Holland occupation of this region, and are used even yet to grind grain.

The country looks more and more prosperous and picture-like as we go on. Trim hedges and tidy fields, everything cared for in the highest degree; no waste nor débris anywhere, all things betokening the small and careful land-holder.

Soon a hateful tunnel shuts off the scene, but as we emerge and near Rouen, the valley of the Seine with the great river winding along through the midst of it, lies about us in unspeakable loveliness. We seem to be in a sort of gigantic basin, the rim of which is the low, circling hills not thickly covered with trees.

How silvery and serene the river looks as we gaze out and see it stretched away for miles in the distance. How gently it flows between its fertile shores and the quaint hamlets clustered here and there in cozy nooks along its banks.

Now rise into view the spires and domes of a great city. We come nearer and nearer. 'Tis Rouen, with its wealth of medieval architecture and its grand, Gothic cathedral, some parts of which date back to 1207. There is a singular incongruity, unsymmetrical in plan yet beautiful as a whole, about the various portions of this famous edifice. One lofty and graceful pinnacle, we are amused to learn, is called the Tower of Butter, from having been erected with the money paid for indulgences to eat butter in Lent.

This is the old town that bade defiance to Henry V., of England, and Henry IV., of France, "centuries ago." All this is too much for Mr. and Mrs. M. to resist; they are fascinated and leave the train to go on later. I, however, prefer to journey to Paris by daylight, so I do not

stop.

At first I do not seem to have gained much for we almost immediately plunge into a series of tunnels; but on reaching daylight once more, we have yet another surprisingly beautiful view of Rouen and the shining river. Then we cross and re-cross the Seine and rush again through tunnel after tunnel to my great chagrin, for I do not like to lose a bit of the charming landscape.

But we come out again and once more skirt the Seine. Yonder on the hills rising from the river may be seen the old church of Bon Secours. All along here are interesting reminders of the ancient, close intermingling of the French and the English. Only ten miles away, at Les Andelys, are the ruins of Castle Gaillard, erected by Richard Lion-Heart. It afterward became a state-prison and in 1314 Margaret of Burgundy, wife of Louis X., was murdered there. It was destroyed in 1663 by Henri IV.

At Vernon is a conspicuous tower built by Henry I. of England. We pass through Mantes where, by falling off his horse, William the Conqueror received the injuries from which he

died at Rouen in 1087.

We continue to skirt the river with ever changing, ever delightful views. We come to Poissy, the birthplace of Louis IX., "St. Louis," whose memory is held so sacred in parts of our own country to-day. At Poissy was held the great conference in 1561, between the Roman Catholics and the Protestants, from which was hoped so much but realized so little.

Still we cross and re-cross the river, for the last time however at Asinières, one of the environs of Paris and a favorite resort for boating, and the like, in the season. Next comes Clichy, another suburb though containing more than thirty-one thousand inhabitants. Now we pass through the fortifications, for Paris is a walled city; then through the last tunnel, under the Place de l' Europe, and enter the station St. Lazare.

Here stepping from the train we give up our tickets at the gate, foreign fashion, and at last, after twelve days' pilgrimage, do I reach the end of my long journey and find myself in Peerless

Paris.

## CHAPTER V.

And now what shall I say of Paris? Paris, so storied and sung from time immemorial. So exalted and so abased, so joyous and so distressed, so brilliantly prosperous and so crushingly ruined, by turns, throughout its whole marvelous existence since first the Roman conquerors set foot within its borders.

Not for me has been left the part to recount its mutations, nor to depict its glories and dis-

asters, either past or present.

Travelers of to-day, even as did the adventurous wanderer of the dim past, seek Paris as the needle seeks the pole, while readers of to-day have spread before them an embarrassment of literary riches from which to select at will. Enough be it for me to relate how it befell one wandering woman within the confines of this wondrous city.

My first glimpse of Paris was from the third floor of the great caravansary that almost surrounds the *Gare St. Lazare*. One leaves the train, goes through a gateway, and instead of passing into the open street, comes directly into

this mammoth edifice.

It was nearly dark when I arrived and by the time I had taken some refreshment and been assigned a room, the day was done. I could not as yet realize that I was in Paris any more than in any other large city. The huge hotel with its spacious salons, electric service, lifts and English-speaking servants, seemed familiar enough. True, neither the queer, high, French

bed with its close curtains, its bolster and great feather cushion, nor the candles on the mantel (to supplement the electricity!) are, so far as my observation goes, to be seen in the United States. Neither are we obliged there to pass an examination in our personal history, on registering; nor are we, after paying for service and attendance specially itemized in our bills, expected to present the servants continually with small coin, unless indeed we choose to ape foreign customs; but otherwise the "altogether," as Trilby might say, differed little from like hotels at home.

On reaching my chamber I hastened to part the window-curtains and gaze down upon the great thoroughfare below. The impression of vast space was astonishing. The wide area beneath stretched out and away, leading off in all directions into broad, bright avenues through all of which multitudes of persons riding, driving, wheeling, walking, were passing to and fro with celerity and ease, yet with no crowding nor jostling. It was raining gently and the army of umbrellas moving swiftly along in the brilliantly illuminated expanse, viewed from above at that height, produced a peculiar effect, as of remarkably lively company of ebony-hued mushrooms out for a promenade. The intense radiance of innumerable lights reflected back from the smooth, wet, glistening pavement, and the buoyant mien of the quickly shifting throngs in no wise depressed by the falling drops, gave an air of animation and festivity to the spectacle that was striking.

The current of my cogitations had been continually interrupted by an annoying "click-click," and I now turned to investigate the cause. Following the sound, I discovered an

upright object perhaps fifteen inches high upon the mantel. It possessed a glass face and two short metal bars that jumped forward about an inch at every click, seemingly causing the same. I tried to open the face and arrest the motion, but in vain. Then it occurred to me that I might tilt the concern up sidewise and thus by throwing its machinery out of balance, perhaps stop the clicking.

It was very heavy but after many struggles I succeeded in moving it a couple of inches when, to my dismay, I found it to be attached in some way to small, colored worsted ropes that disappeared mysteriously into the wall behind. I began to think that it must be some sort of a secret registering-machine "for the benefit of the police," and almost expected that my unwarranted interference with the affair, would bring down vengeance in some unforseen manner upon my unprotected head.

But nothing worse ensued than the continued persistence of the maddening "click-click," which all night long resounded in my ears and did most effectually "murder sleep." The next morning, being still alive and uninjured, I hastened to the hotel-office to ascertain the nature of this "infernal machine." I was relieved to learn that it was "only an electric clock," and would be stopped if I desired; so after that I slept in peace.

The modest tourist with limited means will not stay very long in quarters so public and expensive as the great hotels; though I will say that, all things considered, the prices range from a surprisingly low figure. For instance, one may get a room in most of them for four francs a day, or a little less than eighty cents, but one must pay from one to two and one half

francs a day for light. In the present case, I paid five francs for my chamber which though small was very comfortable, even luxurious. It is not necessary to take any meals in the house, but the ordinary charges at the table d'hôte for the first meal or "little breakfast,"—to translate literally,—consisting of coffee or tea with bread and butter, is from twenty to fifty cents; déjeuner, about ninety-seven cents, and dinner, from one dollar and a quarter to a dollar and sixty cents. Of course by ordering extras, one may swell the amount unlimitedly.

All these hotels also have restaurants attached where one may be served very well indeed, by the card, and where one's meal may be more specially adapted to one's purse; but the prudent traveler will seek out some less pretentious place to regale the inner individual and it is surprising how satisfactorily one may be served for a small sum even in the great city of Paris.

The most continuous drainage upon one s purse in these large hotels, and the most annoying because of one's inability to average it in any way, is the great number of servitors who are to be tipped every day for incidental services, which indeed are divided up amongst as many attendants as possible, so that each may have a claim for "pour boire," as they term it. This practice James de Mille has also amusingly set forth by describing the train of servants which followed him from his carriage into the hotel, one bearing a tooth-brush, another his cane, still another an umbrella and so on with each separate article of his outfit, every one of the force expecting a special tip.

Besides the charge each day from one to two and a half francs, (about twenty to fifty cents,) for attendance, one must tip the "chamber-

maid," (who is a man,) the porter, the servant who opens the door for one, gives one any information or any sort of service, such as calling a cab, fetching a newspaper and so forth, so that one's francs and centimes melt away unceasingly without any very perceptible return for one's outlay. This complication is avoided in a degree at the smaller places where the servants are less numerous and where the size of the tip expected is much less.

The Restaurants Duvat which are found scattered about in all parts of Paris, are particularly desirable for wandering women, though also patronized by men; the places are neat, attractive, comparatively inexpensive and thoroughly

respectable.

The waiters here are women in a decorous uniform of black gowns, white caps and aprons. A peculiarity of these places is that every identical item has a separate charge, but so comparatively trifling that the sum is not exorbitant. For example: napkin, table-cloth, each one cent; half bottle of ærated water or wine, three to ten cents; bread, two cents; soup, five cents, and the like.

Butter is always expensive. Tea costs more than café-au-lait, but the latter is only served in the morning. If one takes cream or milk in one's tea or "black coffee," that is "extra." One's attendant here will be satisfied with a tip of three cents, though of course more is gra-

ciously accepted.

For a person meaning to remain some little time in one place, and this is really the cheapest way to establish one's self as reductions are given for prolonged residence, the best plan is to seek some recommended boarding-house or "pension" as we soon learn to call it. A good

way to get on the track of such, if one has no personal acquaintances, is to ask advice of come Tourist Office, and here is where one benefit of having bought tickets of such an organization, becomes apparent. By the terms of one's contract one is entitled to attention and advice and feels that one has some sort of backing, which lifts a part of one's burden of responsibility from one's own shoulders.

Before I get too far away from the huge hotels, I will say that although almost all places of lodgment in Europe are conducted on what is very properly known as the "European Plan," yet I did find houses in Germany and Switzerland where a higher charge was made for lodging if no meals whatever were taken at the place of sleeping, but as a rule there is no objection to renting beds without board.

Here, perhaps, is a good point to answer the question so often asked by persons contemplating foreign travel, namely: "Is it of any advantage to have the superficial knowledge of foreign languages that one acquires from books and in a class under a Professor, without opportunity

of hearing it in general conversation?"

I think it is; to be sure one will not be able to understand the foreigners at first, no matter how glibly one may read or pronounce the alien tongue. But it will take less time to educate one's ear to the spoken language and in the meantime one is able to read signs, placards, circulars and newspapers, from which one may glean very many desirable hints and much information on almost any department of everyday life; often, on account of such proficiency, being able to dispense with guides, thus lessening one's expense. The guide books gotten out by many Tourist Firms are cheap and reliable; but

for an utter stranger, particularly my "lone sister," I think one more voluminous and giving special hints as to prices and routine of travel, also addresses of inexpensive, respectable stopping-places, is by far more serviceable though considerable more costly.

But there is one thing especially noticeable in foreign lands, even in the grand, opulent city of Paris, and that is the universal recognition of, not only the necessity, but the commendableness of suiting one's expenditure to one's means. There seems to be no odium attached, as too frequently with us, to the attempt to live as cheaply as possible, if one's finances are slender, in order to put by even from such, some sort of a provision for the "rainy day," and there are always arrangements of a desirable and even attractive kind though of course extremely simple, made for persons so situated. Indeed it is considered most blameworthy not to exercise a reasonable prudence and economy, though naturally they who have ample means find no difficulty in being relieved of any surplus. But let my. "solitary woman" take note of the fact that it is absolutely necessary to have a clear and specified understanding in any bargain whatsoever, or one will be likely to find one's self charged more than one has supposed would be the sum total. Let her remember that in France a week is reckoned at eight days and in taking a receipt to see that the revenue stamp required is not omitted. And I would strongly advise her to familiarize herself as much as possible with the currencies of the countries she means to visit, thus lessening her chances of being imposed upon.

Cab-hire is so inexpensive that one at first fritters away a considerable amount in the ag-

gregate upon it, which afterward, when one has learned the routine of the very comfortable and convenient trams and 'buses, one is quite likely to regret. There are numerous lines of these and two or three lines of steam-trams into certain suburbs, and one cable; they traverse the city and environs everywhere, with no confusion and with unusual safety to pedestrians.

Vehicles and equestrians, however, here as in Germany, have the right of way, and if you are run down you must "pay for it," which perhaps may be the secret of so comparatively few ac-

cidents.

Most of the trams and 'buses have an "upper-deck' reached by a narrow stairway and this upper portion is truly the pleasanter place in good weather, though the fare, three cents, is but one half that in the lower part. On these high, open tops may be seen widely contrasting groups. Bareheaded women riding on undisturbed by chance wind or rain, closely contiguous to handsomely garbed ladies; student and laborer, artist and shop boy, priest and washerwoman, side by side. One need never fear crowding and jamming in such conveyances in Paris, or almost any other foreign city, as no passenger may enter a vehicle unless there is a definite place for him.

The sooner one gets so one can go about independently and understandingly, the sooner one's expenses may begin to lessen. It is often said, "You find English-speaking people everywhere;" while this is true, generally speaking, it is also true that to find them you must frequent those lines of travel and entertainment where there is so much English and American business that it is an object to provide especially for it, but it must be paid for and the tourist must pay it in the

long run, so that it is is more expensive than if he were not thus hampered; moreover, one does not then get outside of the beaten track and certainly does not get down into the real, native manners and styles of living, as one does to wander where one listeth. The country people are usually friendly and disposed to assist a

stranger.

If I might add a word as to one's mental attitude when traveling, I would say do not go about in a critical or carping mood; look for pleasant things instead of disagreeable, both of which are to be found everywhere at home or abroad; and above all, do not be aggressively American, though by no means concealing or apologizing for one's nativity of our own broad and magnificent land that, in a paltry three or four centuries, has, in so many respects, so far outranked the degree of progress attained in the old world through thousands of years.

# CHAPTER VI.

Following the method of procedure recommended in the foregoing chapter, I was soon domiciled in a delightful family at Neuilly, a suburb of Paris. The proprietor of this home is an actor at the *Théatre du Palais-Royal*, where his wife also played until her marriage. Cultivated, refined, and also delightful musicians, they are indeed charming in their French fashion, for they speak no English.

There home is described as a hôtel particulier, which being interpreted, means simply "a private house;" the word "hotel" not meaning necessarily, as with us, a place of public entertainment, but signifies specifically a gentleman's house, or a mansion of some sort for special occupation. This one has the rare appurtenance of what we should term a "yard," but called

here a "garden."

It is inclosed by a heavy wall some ten feet high in front, and at the sides and back by the neighboring walls of the high, adjacent houses. An iron gate closely locked and having a bell,

defends us from all intruders.

All through the house are found the slippery, waxed floors so smooth and fair to look upon, but so tiring to feet and ankles. The place is fitted up in exquisite taste, with much beautiful woodwork and fine china; everything glistens with polished cleanliness; the ceilings are very high and the house is "as cold as a barn." Yet it is supposed to be heated because in the basement there is some sort of an arrange-

ment whereby a tiny wave of warm air is sent through exceedingly small apertures into the salon on the ground floor; that is, when there is any fire, which is by no means continually, even in winter.

Lights and fires are "extra" in France, but this establishment is considered to make great concessions because lights are "thrown in" and

only fires in one's own rooms are extra.

If my fancied "sister" has not traveled much in her own country, she may not know that in parts of our own land, as in the south and in California, similar conditions exist; and I must own that the French landlord is in this respect more reasonable than the American; for the former charges usually so moderate a price for his rooms that the extras are not very burdensome, whereas the American, particularly the Californian, exacts a most exorbitant remuneration for his accommodations, and then calmly informs you that you can furnish your own heat, "as they do abroad."

In this dwelling, the great, high, bare halls were a grand coursing place for drafts, and the stone stairs and polished balustrades seemed chill enough. My room was so cold that I sat in street-garb much of the time, even to overshoes and gloves, and for real warmth and com-

fort I went to bed.

Speaking of beds, imagine my horror on first beginning to reside en pension in France, to find that bed-linen is expected to do duty for three French weeks, twenty-four days, without change. I could not believe it when so informed on requesting the maid to bring fresh linen. I thought that I was being "victimized" as a foreigner; but on making inquiries among persons who had been longer in residence than myself, I

found that this circumstance is as true as it is awful. Two towels are supposed to be plenty for the eight days' use. Usually American travelers if stopping long at one pension are impelled by a sense of the proprieties, to supply themselves with an extra change or so and to provide for the laundering of the same.

The French wash-stand-ewer holds about a quart of water, with bowl to match, and a bathroom is indeed a rarity. Of course the foregoing observations do not apply to the great hotels that are chiefly calculated for, and supported by

foreign travel.

There being a fireplace in my chamber, I at first committed the ruinous extravagance of ordering a fire; but finding that the capacity of my fireplace was utterly disproportioned to the amount of space it should, but did not warm, I at last abandoned the measure; having then the partially consoling reflection that at least I was no longer sending up my moderate provision of

francs through my chimney to no avail.

How do these people endure this discomfort? The houses though carefully and solidly built as regards permanence, are yet so badly constructed in regard to the conservation of heat, that even if fires were constant, which they never are, the slight degree of warmth from the tiny fireplaces would be entirely inadequate to counteract the blasts sweeping in around windows and doors, and the dampness inherent in the cold, stone walls. But I found that one gets acclimated in a measure, after a while, though it was sometime before I reached that desired consummation.

The interior of the average French home, though usually tasteful and perhaps artistic, is rarely cheerful and gay. These attributes are

found outside in the boulevards and gardens. On the chilliest and dampest days of winter I would go back to my pension tired, wet and cold, to find no fire in any part of the house unless perchance it was near a meal-time, when there would be some heat in the kitchen.

"Where is Madame, the mistress?" I would inquire? "Can I not go to her for fire a little?"

"Alas! Madame is out."

"But Madamoiselle, has she no fire?"

"Ah! Ma'm'sel' also promenades herself."

In fact there would seldom anyone ever be chez lui except the unfortunate servants who must keep the household going. So I would have to wait with benumbed fingers and toes and chattering teeth till a handful of fire could be put into the small grate in my apartment, so small that it was utterly unequal to heating the room; but as many rooms had none at all, I endeavored to be content, though vigorous drafts continually rushed in through the high ventilator which there were no means of closing, and the fire being as I have said, literally "a handful," generally went out with much greater celerity than it had been kindled.

I was continually reminded of an elderly gentleman whom I met one season in Southern California. He had just arrived from Boston to spend the winter in a "warm country." Like all new-comers, he was going about heavily wrapped, wearing overcoat and overshoes, and almost blue with chill. True, the sun without was shining gloriously, the heavens were a radiant azure, while blossom and verdure ran riot everywhere; a state of things very different from that in France at the same season for, though it is not really cold out of doors and the grass and shrubs in the parks are green, yet the

skies are gray and the trees bare. But to return to my old gentleman. Some one said to him one day: "Well, Mr. K., how do you like Southern

California?"

"Oh," he replied, "if I could just go back to Boston and get warmed up once, I believe I should like California first rate."

Thus with me; if I could only go back to Wisconsin and "get warmed up once," I should

like Paris "first rate."

Neuilly, though a part of Paris, is in itself a city of twenty nine thousand inhabitants. The old *Château Neuilly*, once the favorite residence of Louis Philippe, was totally destroyed by a mob in 1848.

Near my stopping place here is a beautiful little chapel, St Ferdinand, erected on the spot where Louis Philippe's oldest son died in 1842, in consequence of a fall from his carriage. It was in Neuilly that Parmentier made his first experiment in the culture of the potato. A bronze monument near the chapel represents him as investigating the properties of this vegetable.

My quarters at this time were about fifty steps from the Avenue de la Grande Armée, across from which the short Boulevard des Sablons leads into the lovely Bois de Boulogne. Being then unfamiliar with Paris, I did not know at first how far I was from the heart of the city nor that I was "without the walls." I came to a realizing sense of this, however, one day on going home in a cab, for I found I had not only to pay extra for the short distance beyond "the gates" to my place, but was also actually obliged to give the driver an extra franc for himself and vehicle "to return." I felt a strong desire to tell the man in forcible "United States." that I did not care in the least whether

he ever "returned" or not, but being a stranger in a strange land and limited to a small assortment of phrases in a foreign tongue, I contented myself with a feminine version of the thought attributed to the "Dutchman's son,"—("Hans, I know vat you tinks. you tinks 'dam'!")—and wisely held my peace.

After wandering about to my heart's content in this neighborhood, I decided to change my quarters. I next took up my abode in a "cute" little family hotel just around the corner from the Madeleine and near the Tuileries. Everything here was on such a diminutive scale that it seemed almost like a toy establishment.

I was taken past a pretty, little salon and a neat little dining-room to an upper story where, passing through a doorway about two feet wide, invisible when closed, I was conducted down a narrow, dark, quaint, "corkscrewy" little passage most delightfully "Dickensy," into a tiny, semi-circular chamber that took my fancy at once. To my surprise, considering the tortuous and inconvenient method of approach, the room turned out to be in front overlooking the avenue; it was most beautifully light and shiningly clean.

Wonder of wonders,—for they are so rare here,—this house possesses an elevator, or ascenseur. It is an automatic affair, circular, and on crowding might hold four persons. When I desired to go to my room that evening, I was inducted into this machine, a bit of candle in a glittering brass holder was given me, a lever was moved and I began to ascend. Comical enough I felt to be rising thus by some unseen agency, slowly and steadily, candle in hand, all alone, straight up through the center of this unfamiliar edifice.

But I arrived safely at my floor, when the ma-

chine, giving a jerk and a mysterious grunt, stopped short and I let myself out upon the landing. I found out afterward that it was a sort of an unwritten law of the house, that persons should go down by staircase instead of elevator, it being I suppose, only an "elevator" pure and simple, and not a "depressor" as well.

At this place, for the first time since my arrival in France, the rather odd but very comfortable feather cushion for the outside of the bed was missing; also the bed-curtains, which I never can see without being reminded of Mr. Pickwick's adventure with "the lady in the yellow curl-papers." My floor was bare, painted in a set figure mainly dark blue, and varnished A soft, large rug covtill it resembled enamel. ered the center. On one side, or rather, in the middle of the semi-circle, was a recess, and in this was an affair new to me but which I judged to be some sort of heater. It looked like a little temple with flat top of dark marble from which a large pipe led into the wall. Otherwise the apartment had no special peculiarities.

Settling myself here, I should have been very comfortable, had not light and heat been con-

sidered such luxuries.

It may be of interest to mention that this house advertises no charge for light and attendance. This, however, does not preclude the necessity of giving tips. It only does away with the fixed charge in one's bill of a certain amount

every day under that head.

The light, to my amusement, I found was half a candle per diem; if this would not serve, guests had the privilege of paying for more candles or a lamp or electricity. But I will add that the charges here were not at all exorbitant, especially in consideration of the very desirable location.

## CHAPTER VII.

And now I devote myself to exploring Paris. Strolling along through the wide, wonderful boulevards, gazing into the bewilderingly beautiful shop-windows, dropping here and there into the convenient restaurants always filled with a tidy, happy, prosperous-seeming throng, and prowling about in the queer little streets that lead from the great avenues, one notes such peculiar customs, such strange and motley garbs, such a variety of persons.

A large number are in conventual or clerical attire of some sort or other, that of the women not being specially unusual, but that of the men sometimes unique enough. I met a sturdy young fellow the other day arrayed in what might, in a "Ladies' Magazine," be described as a "very

genteel walking-costume."

He wore a kind of princesse robe with full skirt just clearing the ground. A wide sash encircled his rather robust waist, was knotted behind and floated downward to the edge of his gown. A pretty shoulder cape and a modest hat looped up at the side with a chaste cord and tassel, black like the rest of his costume, completed his very feminine dress, if I may except his stout, serviceable boots of unmistakable masculinity, which looked odd enough appearing below his otherwise womanly array.

I see every day any number of plump old gentlemen walking about in little be-ruffled and be-laced white muslin "breakfast jackets" supplemented by neat, black skirts which they deftly hold up from the pavement in the most ladylike manner; also others in comfortable though not very becoming mantillas and flowing robes of black, brown or white, and with widerimmed walking-hats that appertain quite as much to the female as the male human being, so that it really sometimes seems that, in Paris, a state of affairs exists contrary to that alleged of the United States, and that men are appropriating the garb of women instead of women adopting that of men.

Then there are the soldiers with their gay-colored uniforms, some red and blue, others blue and yellow, red and yellow, blue and white and gold, silver-trimmed, gold-trimmed, lace-trimmed, braid-trimmed, infinitely varied in style and combination; some in the old Zouave dress familiar in the United States in the sixties; some in more modern "bloomer" costume; still others with great knee-boots and glittering helmets and floating plumes, riding, driving, walking, marching by squads, standing guard at all public buildings, and so forth and so forth.

To one soldier, however, I am indebted for an amusing spectacle. He came rushing down the street in full uniform on a bicycle. He wore a shining metal helmet, heavy and hot, trousers of a brilliant red and fashioned in expansive bloomer style, polished high boots of cumbrous make, and a great blue cape that floated out from his shoulders like huge wings, giving him the appearance of some unwieldy, tropical bird that might have swooped down upon the wheel and was struggling to rise again with it in his talons.

Walking one day down the Boulevard des Capucines, I was suddenly surrounded by an eager and animated crowd which looked and pointed excitedly up the street. The roadway was quickly cleared and on came a dazzling cavalcade in full military array, horses prancing, accoutrements jangling, every appointment in immaculate order, as it swept by us in hot haste, escorting a rapidly-rolling close carriage which was followed by a second detachment of finely caparisoned cavalry.

"What is it all?" I hastily inquired of a by-

stander.

"Oh, Madame!" was the reply, "it is the President who passes!"

The President! Ah, yes. They have no mon-

arch here! Vive la Republique!

All this parade and display of armed men seems very strange to a resident of a republic that rarely has occasion to demand military service, though never finding it deficient when required. I suppose it is impossible for us in our great, free country, with wide oceans between us and our most powerful neighbors, to realize what it must be to live constantly on guard against foreign invasion. Let us remember and be thankful.

Not that the President of France invariably goes about in this ostentatious manner. I am told that he sometimes is seen proceeding alone like any unimportant individual. But since the assassination of the preceding President and the present disturbed state of affairs on the frontiers, there has been manifest even more than usual of the pomp and circumstance of military authority.

The streets of Paris at present do not show as many cyclers in proportion to the passers, as are to be noted in our cities when the roads are in good condition, as they are here at all times. The *Bois de Boulogne* is said to be a favorite

wheeling-ground but even there cyclers are now comparatively few; all of which leads me to conjecture that perhaps cycling in Paris is less a matter of business than with us, and is therefore practiced principally when most likely to be pleasurable as well as speedy. The pavements are in excellent shape and the temperature generally not colder than with us in the middle of October, and at the present writing, (March) becoming steadily warmer, in fact, in the country peach and almond trees in bloom; still on many days I see no bicycles at all and as yet have encountered but one female rider.

This was on the Boulevard Hausmann, in the very heart of one of the busiest quarters. She presented rather a startling appearance, being clad in a bright pink shirt-waist, white hat, veil, gloves and shoes, with hose and accordeon-pleated bloomers of a soft dove-color. She seemed not a whit abashed by her overwhelming minority but crossed the street just ahead of me, trundling her wheel with the utmost non-chalance.

I had been in Paris nearly two months before I discovered an electric car and my discovery was accidental, all persons of whom I had inquired never having seen any in the city and being unaware that the cars had been introduced here at all. One day, however, I was journeying out in the suburbs, and after proceeding a part of the way by horse-tram, I was informed that I must at a certain point, exchange into a tram électrique; then I ascertained that there are three such lines, though none of them cross the heart of the city, but proceed outward respectively from the Madeleine, the Opera and the Place de la Republique. These cars are two-storied like most of the trams and 'buses of Paris, but unlike them, have a

canopy over the upper story that shields from sun or rain. The only other time that I ever met with this style was in our own country at Coronado Beach, Southern California. While I was in Paris, a great agitation was going on in the newspapers concerning the feasibility of an electric route across the *Place de la Concorde*. The project was most violently opposed by a large number, but I think it will be put through in time.

One of these electric lines leads to St. Denis, a city of about sixty thousand inhabitants and a prosperous industrial-center. Both the route thereto and the city itself are very unattractive; there is nothing whatever to please the eye, and there would, I presume, be few visitors in this direction were it not for the antique cathedral or Basilique, which is interesting as being the burial place of the ancient kings.

The monuments that mark these royal resting-places, (though in some cases the bodies have been removed,) are within the cathedral and, in many instances, of rare and exquisite design and execution; others are more curious and interesting than beautiful, while most of them

are more or less imposing.

A very singular feature is noticeable in one or two of the larger and more elaborate tombs; this is the representation,—in addition to life-sized figures of the commemorated majesties in full coronation-robes,—of a second set of life-sized figures of the same personages in recumbent posture and, in fact, at the moment of death. These last are intensely realistic, nearly nude, with convulsed limbs and distorted countenances, and present a grewsome and ghastly spectacle.

This cathedral is one of the few places either in or about Paris, where visitors are not permitted to go about without a guide. It seems a pity to have it so anywhere, because the professional guide always hurries one on so, in order, I suppose, to receive the gratuities of one party and be ready for the next. Then if you happen to ask him an unexpected question, he is all put out and has to go back and begin over again.

The Basilique of St. Denis occupies the traditional site of a chapel erected about the year 275 above the grave of St. Dionysius or Denis, the first bishop of Paris, who suffered martyrdom in 270 on a hill famous in the annals of Paris, now known as Butte Montmartre, but formerly Mons

Martyrum or Mons Martis.

St. Denis may also be reached by railway if one prefers, as may almost any of the suburbs. The tramway is cheaper but takes more time. I, myself, usually choose the latter mode of transportation because it leads more directly among the people, winding in and around through the busy streets and stopping wherever one may suddenly wish to pursue some side line of exploration.

To St. Cloud, Versailles and Sèvres, I went by steam-tram; this is a very pleasant route, taking one through charming little suburban centers and affording a lovely prospect of semirural scenes. One may also go by boat on the Seine, a most inexpensive method and delightful in the season; I, however, found it too chilly

for this during my stay in Paris.

Serves is a charming village, picturesque in itself and specially interesting as being the place where the lovely Sèvres porcelain is made. The manufactory has been the property of the government since 1756. The exhibition-rooms contain exquisite and priceles specimens of this lovely ware, but the work-shops are not fully

thrown open to the public, the most interesting processes being kept secret. The present building is compartively modern; the old manufactory, at a little distance, is now refitted and used as a normal-school for young women.

St. Germain, St. Cloud, Fontainebleau, Versailles and the Trianons; what a flood of recollections rushes through the mind of the lover of history and romance at the very names. It seemed so wonderful to think I was actually there; I, who first saw the light thousands of leagues away across mountain, moor and main, long, long years after the startling events, thrilling spectacles and brilliant pageants that followed in such swift succession within the boundaries of these royal residences, had wrought their destined effect in the history of mankind and, with all their actors, had vanished forever into the impenetrable past.

Births, marriages, revolutions, bloodshed, death, all have had their turn in these spacious areas lying here now so peacefully silent, and still the sun shines down and the leaves rustle

and the fountains play unaltered.

What a long line of ghostly footsteps go stealing down the quiet avenues. They do not disturb the gay and thoughtless, modern pleasure-seekers who scarce remember, if they ever knew, the noted names, famous and infamous, once so familiar throughout all the length and breadth of the known world.

Louises VII., XIII., XIV., XV., and XVI., Francis I., Henrys III. and IV., Charles V., Napoleons I. and III., Louis Philippe, Pius VII., Queen Christine, Marshall Biron, the Grande Condè, Voltaire, Pompadour, Du Barri, Charles X., Marie Antoinette, Bluecher, Josephine,—how vain to try to complete the roll, to recall the innumerable multitude,—but all are gone.

Yet the influence of their lives and fortunes goes on for good or evil, and the world can

never be as if they had not been

In those days more or less ancient, these lovely pleasure-grounds and elegant châteaus were far removed from the bustle and turmoil of what was even then called the great and wonderful city, but to-day we scarcely know when we have left the city proper behind us and entered into the environs. Everywhere are similar, beautiful and interesting scenes; everywhere the busy

streets and the thronging people.

I have seen no baby-cabs as yet in the streets Babies there are in hosts, and the parks, or "gardens" as they are termed, are swarming with children of all sizes and conditions in all weathers. Perhaps the baby-cabs and the bicycles are waiting for the summer, though I should think these lovely spring days might bring them out. The babies are borne in the arms of a bonne, usually a gayly arrayed female in a long, full cloak of soft, bright cloth. no bonnet, but a snowy muslin or lace cap handsomely fluted and decorated with very broad, brilliant ribbons that stream downward over the back of her attire. The babies themselves are all in white; white, close bonnets with funny little white pompons standing up stiff and defiant, white cloaks, white veils and white mittens; they cuddle down comfortably in the arms of the bonne as she strides along, and view the world with complacent eyes. Imagine the disgusted dismay of the average United States "nursegirl," were it even suggested that she perform like service.

The cats of Paris seem to be a favor d set of felines; fat and frisky, saucy and sleek, of uncommon size and possessing unusually long,

thick fur, they challenge admiration in restauant, shop, and even in the parks, by their majestic presence and condescendingly sociable ways. One magnificent, great, brindled fellow took it upon himself to superintend my breakfasts at a delightful little crèmèrie to which he was at-Seated upon a chair near by, and singtached. ing charmingly the while, he gravely inspected my operations as I disposed of my coffee and roll. He would accept proffered morsels most politely, but evidently only to avoid mortifying me by a refusal, for he never ate them but deposited them at his feet where he gazed upon them pensively from time to time. When I later went to another part of the city, I much regretted severing my connection with his catship, but had the satisfaction of knowing he was well cared for. Indeed these animals seem everywhere to be treated with the utmost deference. I did not see a starved or frightened looking cat while I was in the city. Even the dogs seem to regard them with profound respect.

But the horses, the poor horses! How they are whacked and lashed both with whip and tongue; how weighed down and overtasked with impossible loads on these stony, slippery streets where there is no foothold for them. I have seen them fall again and again only to be kicked and pounded and cursed until they should struggle up from their poor, broken

knees. It makes one's heart ache.

I have seen only five colored persons during my sojourn here amidst this vast multitude of people. This seems strange to a resident of even the northern United States, and compared with my experience last winter in the region of orange and palm, in our southern section, where the very atmosphere seems darkened by their omnipresence, their absence here is conspicuous. By the way it is rather amusing to note how foreigners universally confuse our northern and southern states with North and South America. One can scarcely bring them to comprehend that a resident of a southern state is not a South American.

Then others, on learning that I am an American, have been quite astonished to find that I have no extensive personal acquaintance with the "red Indian." I have met, however, with this latter species of astonishment at home in our own New England, where surely it is inexcusable, and one would suppose impossible to persons of the intelligence and general information of the average New Englander. But it is a fact that he, and I do not know but that I may also without error include the Middle Statesian. often looks upon his compatriot outside these specified localities, as being but little, if at all, removed from barbarism. I do not think such a state of opinion concerning their fellow-countrymen prevails among inhabitants of different sections of other countries, -but this is a digression.

## CHAPTER VIII.

The season of the carnival is celebrated with much vigor in Paris. All sorts of practical jokes seem to be in order, and the throwing of confetti,—minute disks of thin, bright-colored paper,—into unexpecting faces never fails to produce convulsive merriment in the beholders, while the recipients take it, according to their temperaments, with smiles or wrath.

The streets looked very festive with the varicolored showers everywhere pervading and the gay streamers of tinted paper twined and intertwined and floating from every possible niche, nook, angle and projection of column, gable

and tree.

It seemed to be a point of honor for everybody to seize any such floating streamer within his reach and carry it onward with him until it should snap from the strain, when it would be wound around the neck or wrist of the captor, adding to the jubilant appearance of the throng.

A year before, I was in New Orleans during the carnival-time and, though Parisians have the name of being the gayest people in the world, still it has seemed to me that here they did not appear so joyous and light-hearted as the merry crowds in that southern city. In fact, much of the Parisian fun seemed to be largely of a lower grade and there was much intoxication observable both in men and women.

The street-parades in New Orleans too, were more beautiful, strange though this may seem, for of course, taste, ingenuity and expense to the wildest extravagance, are by no means deficient here in Paris. I fancy climate has something to do with the character of the festival; here the skies were of a chilly blue and the wind was too strong for comfort, while there the genial sun was shining prodigally, the air was soft and balmy, and inanimate nature as well as man himself seemed to rejoice.

Of course all sorts of gay parties, bal masques and extravagancies wax fast and furious in these the closing days of the carnivale, or "farewell to the flesh." I did not see or hear of anything in Paris corresponding to the beautiful pageant at this season in New Orleans, when Rex and his royal retinue approach the city in a fine ship and are welcomed with pomp and splendor as

the keys of the city are presented to him.

In New Orleans the queen of the carnival is chosen from the ranks of refined society, as a few years ago when the daughter of Jefferson Davis figured in that role; but I was surprised to learn that here in Paris the choice is made from the blanchisseuses, or in plain English, the washerwomen. In the middle of Lent in this part of the world, there is a relaxation period which, I think, does not obtain widely, if at all, in the United States, and this is called Mi-Car-Then come more parades, more confetti, another washerwoman is chosen queen and the community is given over again to the "world. the flesh and the de-" lights of feasting and revelry for a few hours, when sackcloth and ashes are supposed to prevail once more until Easter Sunday.

Sunday as we understand it at home does not exist in Paris. That the day has come is manifested by an increased jubilance and hilarity throughout the boulevards and avenues. True there are services in the churches, but so there are on so many other days that this is no distinction. Most places of business are open if not in active operation and many reserve their most brilliant displays for this day. There are a few exceptions, however, chiefly among American and

English houses.

Failing one Sunday to secure a copy of the New York Herald at the news-stands, I thought I would step into the office on the Avenue de l' Opéra to get one. Arriving the place did not there, though seem to be formally closed, I yet found myself unable to open the door for the simple reason that the outside part of the handle was missing. This had exactly the same effect as might be in case of the traditional "latch-string" when pulled in; there was nothing on which one could lay hold to raise the latch. This was so very peculiar a situation that I was undecided as to whether it might not be accidental, instead of being meant to keep out visitors.

A number of gentlemen were standing outside, reading through the windows the news-sheets that are always displayed close to the glass and, after much cogitation as to the form of my phrase, I finally mustered courage to address one of them for information, so in my very best French I asked him if he could tell me whether the office were really closed. To my surprise he turned red, looked embarrassed and at last said

in broken French, "I do not understand."
"Oh," said I in my native tongue, "you are

English."

"No," he replied, "American, from Mich-

igan."

I then told him I was his "neighbor" from Wisconsin, and we both, strangers though we

were, indulged in a little laugh over our painful and needless struggles to communicate in French.

But I did not get into the Herald office.

One unique characteristic in public worship here fills the average American mind with amazement and, I fear, amusement. This is the employment of beadles, or Suisses, who are a regular feature in all the great churches of Paris. They are usually very large, finely-built men and are most gorgeously attired. They serve in pairs as nearly matched as possible in height and size, and it is a sight to be remembered to behold them stepping out in their rich velvet, gold-trimmed dress-coats, their marvelous, long waist-coats and superb "continuations,"—as Dickens has it,—their delicate stockings, wonderful cocked-hats and buckled shoes.

Each wears a lengthy gold chain and bears a heavy, glittering baton of office, about five feet long, and at certain points in the service, such as conducting the celebrant to and from the altar, or taking the collections, they precede the line of attendants and at each step, bring down their heavy rods to the floor with a grand thud that is most impressive. Their office seems to be purely ornamental as, except to head and escort these various personages and processions about the church, they perform no service what-They deign not themselves to handle the little velvet bags into which are dropped the contributions of the congregation. No, indeed! This inferior duty is performed by what, I presume, they consider inferior creatures, that is, by women, who meekly trot about after "their high-mightinesses" and deprecatingly present the bags to each of the spectators.

The theaters and all places of entertainment are in full blast on Sunday, both matinées and

evening performances being given at most of them. During the week they are open nightly and, in a few instances, for a Thursday matinée and are always crowded.

At the Opera House are the grandest and most imposing spectacles; the Odéon is devoted principally to the classic drama, while the Théatre Français is noted for the elegance and purity of its diction. The Vaudevilles, Théatres des Variétés and des Gaité, the music-halls and the Cafés-Concerts are of course, without end.

It looked very odd to me to see men sitting during the play with their hats on, and also to see both men and women leave their places between acts and pass into the halls and fovers for promenading and refreshment. No orchestra is visible at any theater that I have visited, though -audible from behind the scenes. In some parts of the theater, ladies are obliged to remove their hats; in others, one must appear in full dress or be refused admittance; there are women in attendance to take charge of one's wraps for a small fee, which however is not a definite charge. but regulated by the patron's means or generosity. I had a somewhat mortifying and yet amusing experience at one of my visits to the theater. I had gone in haste and omitted to ascertain as usual the contents of my purse before starting out. Not until I went to claim my wraps after the performance, and had opened my pocket-book to tip the attendant, did I become aware that I had nothing whatever therein, over and above my fare home, but two insignificant bronze coins equal to about a cent and a half of United States money.

In vain I held my empty purse open deprecatingly before the eyes of the lofty and important functionary who, in all her dignity of bestarched and be-frilled cap and apron, was waiting my favors while I eagerly sought to explain in my halting French, how I had neglected to provide myself with money, and how annoyed and sorry I was to be unable to recompense her in a fitting manner; she would have none of my explanations; she only conceived that I was offering her that insultingly trifling sum, and she brushed aside all my apologies with the freezingly sarcastic words: "Since you are so poor, Madame,"—what a scathing emphasis there was on those two words as she measured me from head to foot taking in my somewhat festal attire!-- 'I will take pity on you; you may keep your seven centimes!" Humbled and abashed, I crept away but my keen enjoyment of the utter absurdity of the situation was a most happy mitigation of the crushing effects of the dame's disdainful irony.

In some of the theaters one must pay extra for a program, but at the Opera and the *Français* at least, these are furnished free of charge.

The feature in Paris theaters the hardest, I think, for Americans to understand, is the

claque, or company of paid applauders.

They usually sit, I am told, in the center of the house, underneath the great chandelier. They lead off at intervals with vigorous rounds of applause, most vigorous if failing to elicit add-d applause from the general audience. I understand that many attempts have been made to abolish this singular custom, all of which have thus far failed.

## CHAPTER IX.

Funerals here are dismally pompous affairs and yet they do not seem solemn. The ceremonies are so overdone and the mechanism so apparent

that the force of the pageant is lost.

Going to the Madeleine one Sunday, I found the whole imposing front of that classic edifice covered by two great black curtains looped back in the center. These were edged with white fringe and had a wide border in Grecian key pattern.

On the broad, colonnaded portico stood a large table with like coverning, and here sat a being in an immense black cocked-hat trimmed to match, as were his long waistcoat, kneebreeches and swallow-tailed coat. His gloves were white, his long hose were black and he wore low, black shoes with frosted buckles. He seemed to be the master of ceremonies. Fancy our decorous and unassuming funeral directors in the United States, tricked out in this manner.

Inside the building were two grand and awful personages in the same depressing garb, each bearing a huge staff with black streamers. The demeanor of these mighty-seeming ones, however, did not comport with their majestic appearance. for they ambled about hither and you and seemed,—to use a plebeian but forcible expression,—to be 'sticking their noses into everything.'

A number of persons were standing about here and there, others walking around, still others sitting; (by the way, if you take a seat in any of these churches, you must pay three cents, which is collected during service when-

ever one sits down;) all were staring.

In the center of the church stood a high bier heavily draped, as was the interior of the building everywhere, in the black, white-fringed and bordered trappings of woe. Innumerable candles in tall, massive holders faintly illuminated

this bier and the high altar.

With the melancholy reflections naturally suggested by these symbols of mortality, I gazed upon the bier, supposing of course that upon its top and draped by that heavy pall, rested the pulseless form of one who would tread life's paths no more. There was some music to be heard at intervals but no one paid any attention to it. There were no mourners visible, no one seeming to have any closer connection with the deceased than the hired functionaries and the careless spectators.

All this time, men, evidently workmen, were running to and fro in the church and continually breaking in upon what should have been the solemnity of the occasion. After some time two of these men, going up to the catafalque, as I supposed to lift from off it the casket, stooped down instead, flung up the drapery, revealing a flimsy, cheap, unpainted framework, and there underneath upon the bare floor stood a plain wooden coffin. This they shoved out by means of feet and hands into the aisle, where some more men got hold of it and began to carry it out.

At the same time other men commenced pulling down the bier, piling up its light timbers and rolling up the drapery; others extinguished the tapers, disclosing thereby that they were but candle-ends stuck into long tubes simulating candles; others still grabbed up the heavy

candle-sticks, whereby I saw that they were only wood silvered over, and others again appeared in the upper galleries and, runring along on the wide cornices, began to rip off the heavy curtains with all possible speed, throwing them to the floor, thus dislodging much dust and mustiness and evoking consequent numberless sneezes through the sacred edifice as the men devoted themselves to bundling up everything pertaining to the occasion, getting it outside with great celerity. All this while the body was yet on its way to the door and the congregation still standing about within the church.

With the current of my thoughts effectually changed I went outside, narrowly escaping being knocked over by the hurrying workmen with their heavy loads. Finding a safe spot I looked down from the imposing colonnade upon the

broad, bright avenues below.

A long line of mourning-coaches was drawn up in waiting, each almost hidden beneath black, white-edged draperies, and provided with horses also nearly concealed under similar funereal housings; while, attired like the beadles in cocked hats, knee-breeches and all the appurtenances, the coachmen sat upon their boxes gloomily monumental. A few men clad in the same style walked at each side near the head of the cortège; immediately following the huge, grewsomely decorated hearse was a long double row of men and women on foot; after these came other heavily and lugubriously draped carriages.

Thus was this solemn ceremony conducted at the Madeleine, that classically beautiful and historically interesting pile, one of the finest and most important of the sacred temples of Paris.

Since then I have seen many another Parisian funeral where there was not even the impos-

ing effect of a large scale of operations, yet they were all carried on in the same ponderous and artificial manner, the grandeur and extent of the display being, I suppose, regulated by the purse

of the afflicted family.

We talk of funeral reform at home, but after witnessing such a mechanical and cumbersomely dreadful pageant, our most elaborate method seems simplicity itself; and at any rate with us there is a gravity and a quietude of procedure that causes no jar to the tenderest sensibilities by its too obvious machinery.

The Madeline is not an ancient edifice as antiquity is reckoned abroad. Founded but little over a century ago in 1764, its construction continued until 1842. I lingered within the stately portico through which already have passed such innumerable multitudes, the distinguished, the renowned, the insignificant, to mingle with the ceaseless stream below in activity, or to be borne

on, silent and passive, never to return.

The soft spring sunshine fell peacefully down, lighting up roof and pavement, pillar, façade and people with a faint glow. The long funeral train moved off in its progress toward the distant cemetery. As it wound along the brilliant boulevards a strange quiet fell upon the hubbub and unrest of the changeful scene. Men bared their heads; men, women and children crossed themselves and stood silent. Such is the custom It has a singular effect sometimes in the midst of the gay, busy, hurrying throng.

The principal cemeteries of Paris perhaps, are those of Père Lachaise, Montmartre, Montparnasse and Picpus, of which the first is easily the leader. There are in all, I understand, about

twenty-two or three.

The space parceled out as one lot in these cem-

eteries is limited in the extreme, and the large and imposing memorials huddled together in consequence, present a disorderly and uncomfortable spectacle to one accustomed to the usual spacious areas and almost boundless vistas of America's broad acres. There is, I am told, an average of nearly one hundred graves required daily in Paris, so that the above burial spots would be greatly inadequate, were it not that the poor are committed to the Fosses Communes, or Public Trenches, large pits each containing from forty to fifty coffins.

. Bædeker informs us that burials in such "common graves" now take place outside the precincts

of the city only.

Burial-places for the individual are secured in a variety of ways, of which outright purchase, the ordinary method among us, is rare and diffi-A Concession a perpétuité, or perpetual privilege, granting a very small, private burialplace of twenty-two and one-half square feet, may be obtained for about two hundred dollars, the price of each additional square meter (about eleven and one-third square feet), beyond six, is six hundred dollars. A Concession Trentenaire providing that a grave shall remain undisturbed for thirty years, may be had for sixty dollars; a Concession Temporaire for five years, ten dol-After the time of each limited concession has expired, unless it is renewed, the bones must be removed to the Fosses Communes to make place for more recent interments for which those interested will pay the price.

So the majority of graves are practically only rented and, as in life, if the rent is unpaid, out you go. This, I dare say, seems as shocking to my "suppositious sister" as it did to me when I first learned it; if so, she will be surprised to hear

that I did not come upon this state of things first abroad, but in our own city of New Orleans, which has so many truly French customs. I believe like arrangements prevail to more or less extent, in most crowded cities abroad.

All this has given rise to a number of burial associations, the members of which contribute to a fund for the purchase of a plot of ground in a cemetery, whereon is erected a general tomb provided with receptacles for a certain number of bodies. This arrangement like many other wholesale dealings, comes much cheaper than the individual purchase singly, and assures each member of an undisturbed place of repose after ''life's fitful fever.''

To quote a popular hand-book, all burials within the Department of the Seine are conducted by a certain Funeral Organization whose charges are regulated by tariff varying from sixty cents to nearly fifteen hundred dollars, exclusive of the price of the coffin and the officiating clergyman's fee. Two chaplains are attached to each cemetery for the gratuitous per-

formance of the burial rites of the poor.

Père Lachaise, or the Cimetiere de l' Est, is the largest and most interesting of Paris cemeteries. It is named after Father Lachaise, the Jesuit confessor of Louis XIV., and occupies the site of that prelate's country-seat. It lies on a low, undulating hill at the extreme east end of the city, within the walls. It has an area of one hundred and ten acres and contains more than twenty thousand monuments, many of which "are deeply interesting as memorials of great personages, while others are noteworthy on account of artistic excellence."

How touching here as everywhere, the vain attempt to keep in the memory of man, that

existence which, however dear and necessary to its own bereaved circle, has yet left no other influence to impress the world at large. Others there are whose lives shall never be forgotten, and large indeed is the number of these who here rest from their labors. How startling the wondrous array of illustrious names that gleams

forth at every turn.

Singer, soldier, scholar and statesman; poet, philosopher, priest and painter; actor, artist, author and ambassador; astronomer and archæologist; composer and consul; who could recount them all? To think that this dust beneath our feet enshrines the mortal housings of every phase of divine genius, of dauntless bravery, of exalted excellence, that the world has ever known. All at the same level now and whirled around resistless from sun to sun, "with rocks, and stones, and trees." "But thanks be to God Who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

It is in this cemetery that are interred the bodies of Abelard and Heloise who, in spite of their varying fortunes and their phenomenal gifts and learning, are remembered chiefly by mankind in general, through the piteous tale of their most woeful love. Their recumbent statues lie upon a sarcophagus beneath a Gothic canopy, all of dark marble, and re-constructed by Lenoir from fragments of an old monument.

Upon the tomb of Alfred de Musset are inscribed his own beautiful lines which may be

freely translated as follows:

"Dear friends, I pray, when I shall die Plant near my grave a willow tree; I love its rustle sweetly sad, Its leafage pale is dear to me. Its shadows soft shall lightly rest Upon the earth above my breast." His wish is gratified for a willow gently murmurs above his dust.

Over the grave of Paul Baudry is a bronze bust and statue with the following brief but touching inscription upon the pedestal;

"Glory hath crowned thee, and I,-I mourn

thee, alas! a widow alone with my babes."

An attempt to depict the wonderful beauties and artistic perfections so lavishly displayed here as elsewhere, does not come within the province of this unpretending manual: small need is there that it should, in view of the gifted and exhaustive works already published along these lines. Sometimes, as one wanders on in a scene which, though in itself unfamiliar. may yet be a type of others better known, and with the mind prepared for a certain sameness and routine in objects and occurrences, there will occasionally start forth something a little different, thus specially attracting one's attention, though in detail it may be nothing particularly noteworthy. To record such intelligibly and possibly with some interest to another as they strike me, is all that I can hope to achieve.

A very odd and conspicuous monument is to be seen at the western end of the Avenue Transversale, No. 1, and is visible so far away as the Arc d' Etoile in the Champs Elysées. It consists of a huge pyramid one hundred and five feet high, and was erected to himself at a cost of twenty thousand dollars, by Felix de Beaujour, formerly a consul. Strange to say, this work is popularly known as the "sugar-bread."

There is a Jewish cemetery included within the boundaries of *Père Lachaise* and in this portion is the family tomb of the noted Rothschilds. Madame Rachel, the great trayedienne,

is also buried here.

At the extreme north end of *Père Lachaise* is situated a Crematory which though unfinished, has been in use since 1889. I am told that the process of cremation lasts one hour and is accomplished by means of refracted heat from a fire of eight hundred degrees.

The flames do not touch the corpse. The ashes left weigh about one twelfth of the original weight of the body. The cost, including the right to a niche for five years, is from ten

to fifty dollars.

The Cemetery of Montmartre, or Cimetière du Nord, lies above the city upon the hill of that name so famous in the annals of Paris. It is much smaller than Lachaise, but has many interesting features. Just aside from the main entrance are four tombs containing the remains of seventy Polish refugees, the first tomb bearing the inscription in Latin, "May an avenger one day spring from our ashes." Horace Vernet and Paul Delaroche are buried here, also Ary Scheffer, Renan, Heinrich Heine, Carlotta Patti, Samson, the actor, Theophile Gautier, and many others of fame. One of the inscriptions on the latter's tomb, runs something after this fashion:

"The bird departs, the leaflet falls, And Love has fled before the chill; Thou little bird, when trees bud new, Above my grave, Oh! warble still."

The Cemetery of *Montparnasse*, or the *Cimetière du Sud*, is much less beautiful and romantic in location than the two preceding. Here are buried the sculptor Rude and Henri Martin, the historian; also Henri Gregoire, afterward Bishop of Blois, one of the first of the clergy to swear fealty to the new constitution in 1790.

Not far from the entrance, behind a small pyramid, is an enclosed space devoted to the graves of Sisters of Charity. Among these rests Sister Rosalie Rendu who was decorated by the Legion of Honor, in recognition of her devoted services in the Crimea.

There is a curious old structure at a considerable distance toward the right of the principal avenue; it is the tower of an old mill belonging to a convent of Frères de St. Jean-de-Dieu. For some reason not ascertained by me, it has always been allowed to remain here in spite of incongruity.

Two large monuments stand opposite each other in the newer part of the cemetery, one commemorating all soldiers who have died in defence of France, the other, all firemen who have perished in execution of their duties.

In the little cemetery of Picpus are interred many of the oldest families of France. Here sleeps Lafayette, so dear to American hearts. At one end of the inclosure, are buried thirteen hundred victims of the Revolution who perished by the guillotine. Among these are the poet André Chénier, the chemist Lavoisier, General Beauharnais, and many others long known to fame.

The Cemetery of Passy, situated in the lofty and beautiful suburb of that name, is quite peculiar in location. One reaches it by means of a long flight of solid stone steps, broken into short lengths. Arriving at the top, one does not come directly into the cemetery but seems to have entered a different world, so sharp is the contrast between the little streets of tiny, picturesque homes upon the hill, and the broad, imposing avenues of stately mansions one has just left below. One soon turns in at the right

and enters the quiet and lovely little city of the dead, where are many fine monuments.

Here just beyond the entrance, is the mausoleum of the gifted and erratic Marie Bashkirtseff, which was designed by Emile Bastien-Lepage. An exterior of pale marble is covered with florid ornamentation of various sorts, scattered flowers, wreaths, butterflies, draperies and so forth. Upon one façade are graven two stanzas, one from André Theuriet, the other from E. Ducross. The interior is a pleasant chamber perhaps twelve feet square, illuminated by large stainedglass windows and a glass door covered with metal grill-work through which one can see distinctly all within. Here in the tempered light may be seen a life-sized bust of this young genius whose earthly course was so brief. upon a sort of altar whereon also rest her palette; her manuscript diary, a laurel wreath and other One or two graceful chairs stand about relics. and a cushion or so disposed here and there, with a guitar carelessly resting at one side, give an attractive, occupied seeming to the place and one almost looks to see the young girl enter to resume some one of the varied pursuits of her many-sided character. The structure is finished with a graceful dome, minarets rise from the four corners and a glittering metal cross surmounts the whole.

In all the cemeteries that I have visited, I have noticed another marked difference in the way of decoration, between foreign taste and our own. Even in *Père Lachaise*, so renowned for its sculptured marvels, where monuments of rare beauty testify to cultured taste as well as loving heart, are to be seen hanging upon the sepulchers, huge garlands and wreaths of tin and iron beads fashioned and colored into a re-

mote semblance of natural flowers. They fairly set one's teeth on edge. But there are others still more dreadful, of crockery, also intended to

simulate floral offerings.

The most appalling of all are great, solid circles, or rather, rings, their surfaces variegated with a faint suggestion of closely set petals, colored yellow, and perhaps supposed to represent immortelles; as if they were not frightful enough of themselves, they are frequently converted into a veritable nightmare by being wrapped in some coarse, thin, black stuff that probably does duty

as crape.

If these barbarous mementoes were to be seen only on humble graves, one might fancy that limited means had occasioned the use of a durable substitute for the perishable beauty of naural leaf and bloom, but as a matter of fact, I believe these set pieces are not inexpensive, and as before stated, they may be seen upon the most costly tombs. I must say, however, that I saw this same incomprehensible style of decoration in the old cemeteries at New Orleans upon French tombs. How is it that the French, who have such a world-wide reputation for exquisite taste, should be able to find satisfaction in the use of these hideous objects?

I notice in each of the different cemeteries here, at some prominent part of the grounds, a simple but beautiful monument reared "to the memory of all those who have no other monument." This seems to me a tender and touching tribute, the like of which I have not observed at

home.

## CHAPTER X.

Go where one will, one seems ever to be in the great central midst of things. Everywhere one finds wide avenues and grand boulevards converging into spacious and beautiful *Ptaces* or *Rond-Ponts* and filled with great throngs coming and going, and yet somehow there does not appear to be that everlasting rush and jostle

that we notice in our own large cities.

There are many beggars with their professional whine, and yet few compared to the population. Upon the steps and within the porticoes of the churches, particularly the antique and venerable ones, do the beggars specially congregate, often even within the edifice itself, having acquired a sort of right of old and established usage from time immemorial, to display there their infirmities and deformities to the worshiping and sight-seeing multitudes.

Some, perhaps, of those who desire alms ought not to be called beggars, as they profess to give something for one's money. It is somewhat surprising to see a man or woman, or both, suddenly step out into the middle of a street and all at once lift up voice or voices in stentorian song, after which contributions are solicited.

The most annoying class are the street peddlers; they follow one for blocks, persisting in their importunities. It will not do to notice them by glance or word, even of courteous refusal, as they will then dog one indefinitely, "arguing the case," hoping, I suppose, to weary one into purchasing. One may rid one's self of

them, I believe, by speaking to a gardien de la paix, but this seems rather heavy artillery to bring against the poor wretches, so one usually endures in silence.

There is another sort of street-vender who is not to be classed with the peddlers for he is an institution by himself. He may have garden produce for sale, he may be an "old-clothes-man" or a dog-barber, but whatever he is, he does not pester one unnecessarily; he, -or she, for perhaps it is a woman, and if so, bare-headed—betakes him down through the center of the street. pushing before him his goods or his tools, while ever and again he gives vent to a most peculiar refrain consisting of a few set notes that ring out high and strident, yet not without a certain melody, above the conglomerated noises of the busy thoroughfare. It is impossible to know what he says; he has a patois of his own. from the looks of his wares, you desire his attention, he serves you at once politely, but he importunes nobody and goes on his way still warbling.

One is constantly meeting in the streets, long lines of boys and girls of all ages, being escorted to and from their respective schools by their teachers. I am told that during the first few years of childhood, the sexes are educated together in governmental schools. A little later a division is effected and women are appointed to teach the girls while the boys are put under the charge of men, always, I believe of some clerical order. Still later the girls finish their education in the convents while the boys are sent to the universities. It looks odd to see these processions of tall youths filing by, carefully conducted and watched over by half a dozen or so priestly attendants, as if the lads were incapa-

ble of walking unharmed about the streets alone. In their times of play, unless in the public gardens, both lads and lassies are hidden by the high, opaque walls of their respective schools or homes, such a thing as a "door-yard" open to the public gaze, being unknown in Paris.

Shop-boys have a fashion of bearing surprising burdens on their heads, like our southern At a corner of two principal boulevards, amid all the elbowing and confusion of a densely packed crowd that had gathered to watch a carnival parade, I saw a baker's boy making his way unconcernedly across the street, hands thrust in pockets and upon his head a basket of delicate pastries about which he seemed to have no consciousness whatever. When he came to a more than usually impenetrable part, he would calmly demand: "Is it that I may pass?" and somehow pass he did with his burden unharmed. Sometimes you may see one with perhaps a load of eggs or fresh butter upon his cranium, yet walking on and reading a newspaper with sublime indifference as to the perishable nature of his burden. Or, maybe one with basket of snowy linen will stop to watch a game or possibly indulge in a few rounds himself, without injury to himself or his charge.

Bread seems sometimes regarded as a literal as well as metaphorical "staff of life." Often you may see a young fellow going along with a yard or two of this comestible in his hand, swinging it like a cane; or a woman will be coming down the street with a like thin, long roll clasped in her arms; or you may see it leaning against a doorway waiting to be taken in; or two little children will be skipping along, each bearing one end of it, like a stick of wood.

Another thing that has surprised me some-

what, is the size of the average French woman's foot. There is no difficulty in getting a knowledge of it, for the ladies of Paris hold their skirts at a remarkable elevation from the pavement, and the fact is thereby revealed that instead of posessing, as I had fancied from reading, tiny, dainty pedal extremities, they as a rule have noticeably generous, substantial "understandings." American shoes are considered far superior to all others and are advertised accordingly.

Ladies and gentlemen walking together usually lock arms even by day, reminding one of pictures in old editions of Dickens and Thackeray. I am told that this is generally customary on this side of the water. Very often, too, both ladies and gentlemen, forsaking the foot-pavements, betake themselves to the middle of the street, down which they walk nonchalantly, evidently deeming their right of way equal to that

of horsemen and vehicles.

Just now the shop-windows are full of curious cartoons anent the first of April, though instead of stigmatizing a gullible idiot, as we do, an "April Fool," they here depict him or her as imposed upon by a fish. I have wondered whether our term "fish story", might trace its

origin to this custom.

The large magasins, or department stores, of Paris are interesting institutions. Besides their wondrous displays of art and fashion in infinite variety, many things in their arrangement and management are peculiar. The Bon Marché—pronounced "Baw Marshy" with a strong nasal twang,—in the Rue de Bac. covers a large square and is, perhaps, a model of its kind. Its employés are boarded at the place, with which are connected dining room, kitchen and other

domestic offices. Four repasts, I understand, are served each day, of excellent quality. A fine and spacious reading-room made beautiful by artistic decoration, painting, plants and bricabrac, is provided with stationery, current journals and periodicals for the benefit of shoppers.

There are no fixed seats at the counters, as with us; if a customer is given a chair it is either as a special courtesy or on a special occasion. There are no cash-carriers of any kind, animate or automatic; each purchaser must accompany the clerk who has served one to the bureau of that special department, where one pays for and receives one's goods. This entails considerable extra walking and every step counts on the extremely slippery, hard-wood floors, but the custom does away in a great degree with the long waits necessary in our stores, during which, as the jokers have it, one grows gray and tottering before receiving one's change.

There is always at least one functionary in these great emporiums who "spiks Ingliss," though it may be fearfully and wonderfully made.

The demeanor of the employés in general is an improvement on that of many of our "sales-ladies and gentlemen" at home. One is not petrified by a stony stare if one desires merely to look at a display of the wares without immediate purchase, nor is one annihilated by glances of ineffable disdain if one ventures to ask for a less expensive article than that shown; on the contrary one is treated with much deference and the right to inspect freely and to suit one's purse in buying, is conceded as a matter of course.

I notice in Paris an odd method of street-wa-

tering, calculated however for limited areas, the like of which I have never seen in America. The apparatus consists of several lengths of iron pipe, each of about ten feet and mounted at each end on little cross-pieces that in turn have at each end a small iron ball revolving in a socket and resting on the pavement; the pipes are connected by very short lengths of flexible, rubber hose.

A man in charge rolls this apparatus into the street, fits one end to an aperture in the pavement communicating with the water-supply, puts a nozzle on the other end and straightway he is enabled to wet down a considerable space with very little trouble. There are watering carts too, of course; queer looking affairs like boxes, about three feet high and four long, mounted on two great wheels like a dumping-cart.

A large number of horseless carriages of various styles and sizes, and calculated to carry from one to half a dozen persons, may be seen running all about through the streets of Paris. I have also seen a three-wheeled affair resembling a bicycle. The rider of this machine does no pedaling and seemingly has no care whatever except to direct his course by means of the handle-bars. I have never seen these elsewhere and they are more terrifying to me than all the 'buses and trams together, for one never knows when they may whizz across one's path, as they are confined to no set tracks, like the trams and are heralded by no beat of horses' feet, like the They speed over the pavements, swift and silent, the only warning one has of their approach being a shrill, little "toot" which one thinks, if one notes it at all, is produced by some small boy's tin trumpet. I believe the motive power is petroleum.

It strikes me that the Parisians are great sleepers. It may be because they live so fast that they are obliged to take "forty winks" whenever they can; at any rate they seem to sleep everywhere. On the benches, in the gardens, in the galleries, the museum, the omnibuses, even in the cafés with their glasses before them, you may see men and women too, sitting bolt upright and wrapped in placid slumber. The news-dealer slumbers at his stand: the bootcleaner slumbers at his post; the cabman slumbers on his seat; if you wish the latter's services you must waken him; if you make a round of calls you will find him relapsed into slumber between each one and you will probably have to poke him up every time, before you resume your drive.

One can apparently never exhaust the odd spectacles one is continually meeting in a promenade. Fancy defunct porkers and lifeless mutton-legs gayly garnished with artificial flowers; or a plucked fowl tricked out with strings of red berries around its neck and "drumsticks;" or a salt cod-fish tastefully decorated with sprays of green. There is a great display in the open street of all sorts of wares, from eggs to engravings; many things to the United States mind, calling imperatively for an Anthony Comstock to rise up in righteous wrath and sweep them from off the face of the globe. There is always an interested and critical throng about these varied exhibitions and I believe the art of window-dressing reaches its height in Paris.

Many of the streets have most absurd names. Here are a few jotted down in my meanderings: "The Cat that Fishes," "September Fourth," "July Twenty Ninth," "Good Children," "White Mantles," "The Step of a Mule,"
"White Horse," "Five Diamonds," "Scissors,"
"Comet," 'Equality," "White Doctor," "Hell,"
—for a fact, both a boulevard and a passage are
called by this name usually unmentionable to
ears polite,— "High Pound," "Iron Pot," "White
Queen," Poor St. Julien," "Old Pigeon-House,"
and others quite as queer. But these are relics
of olden times, whereof the precise significance

has been forgotten.

Equally singular and sometimes, to the Anglo-Saxon idea, verging on the profane, are the titles of some of the shops, such as,—all translated, of course,—"The Mother of a Family," "The Good Devil," "God the Father," "The Chicken in the Pot," "The Devil's Four Quarters," "The Grace of God." This last is a dye-shop and were it in England or the United States one might try to evolve some connection between the "grace of God" and "dying" in one sense and so, by transference, to "dyeing" in another; but being in France, even this labored explanation is impossible.

Though I gaze with admiration on the great, wide, modern thoroughfares with their marvelous display of architectural beauties, and rare as well as costly wares, yet I am really most fascinated by these same quaint, old streets and localities that are in the midst of, yet so far removed from, all our conceptions of life as we

know it now.

Imagine the state of society and of traffic that could exist among these narrow ways, little more than lanes, in many of which it would be impossible for one vehicle to pass another. Naturally we infer that there were no vehicles to pass; upon the backs of men and horses were transported through the towns all the necessities of

life. But can we go so far as to imagine all the carts, carriages and conveyances banished from the streets to-day, and the consequent hush and general stagnation that such a condition of things would imply? Would life be worth living? And yet they lived, those people of the olden time, and did good deeds and brave and passed

on that we might come after.

I say little about the magnificent palaces, cathedrals, art-collections and other places of note in Paris, although there is scarcely a day in which I do not visit some of them. They are all well-known to fame and stand solidly on their own merits to which, or from which, I could add, or detract, nothing, even were it incumbent on me to try. But impressions of sights and sounds that attract the attention of a stranger in novel environment must be tinged more or less in every instance with his own individuality and thus in a measure unlike all others, which is my excuse for rambling on.

Many a day have I spent in the Palaces of the Louvre and the Luxembourg and numberless others, amid their wonderful treasures of marble and canvas; many an hour amid the cool, secluded shades of Notre Dame, St. Sulpice, St. Germain-des-Près, the Madeleine, the Pantheon

and others too numerous to name.

Ah! to think of the quiet feet which once passed restlessly in and out of these vaulted aisles; the silent voices once lifted here in earnest prayer and praise. All gone, but their places are not vacant. Still rush and throb the feet and hearts of surging humanity, ever coming, ever going; still rise anew its vibrant voices in song and supplication.

There is an antique, crumbling and mossgrown edifice standing in its own grounds at a corner of the bustling, modern boulevards, St. Michael and St. Germain. It is called *Hôtel de Cluny*, (*Hôtel* meaning private mansion,) and occupies the site of a Roman palace founded be-

tween the years 292 and 306, A. D.

Here in 360, Julian was proclaimed emperor. The old palace has long gone to ruin and the only part left to-day is the ancient *Thermes* or baths connected with it. The fact that the *Frigidarium* or cold-bath chamber, is sixty-five by thirty-seven and one half feet in area, and fifty-nine in height, indicates something of what must have been the imposing dimensions of the ancient structure.

Above this chamber lay for many years, until 1810, I believe, a garden, yet its weight and moisture did not affect the stone roof of the apartment lying below,—then all unsuspected,—so substantial is its masonry. Many antique pieces of sculpture more or less defaced are found here, one of Greek marble representing the Emperor Julian himself, and a battered and disreputable old creature does he appear now, whatever he may have been in his prime.

In 1340 the ruins came into the possession of the wealthy Benedictine Abbey of Cluny, the abbots of which caused to be erected in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the present *Hôtel* 

de Clunu.

This edifice, a remarkably fine specimen of late Gothic combined with Renaissance features, still exists and quaint enough it looks amid the surroundings of modern civilization. The estate became national property during the Revolution and in 1839 the Hôtel de Cluny came into the possession of M. Alexander du Sommerard, a learned antiquarian. He died in 1842 and the property, together with the Thermes, was pur-

chased by the government and thrown open to the public free of charge. By the way, Paris is remarkable for the numerous means of recreation, instruction and culture which it furnishes gratuitously to both residents and strangers; and it is rare if even a nominal fee is asked for the care of one's umbrellas or canes when left, as they must be, with the door-keepers.

The Hôtel de Cluny contains a most valuable collection of mediæval objects of art and industrial products to the number of more than eleven

thousand.

But what renders it supremely interesting to me is the fact that the somber old rooms with their low, timbered ceilings, black with time, their ponderous but pricelessly beautiful furnishings, their deep, wide-mouthed fire-places mutely testifying of an epoch when France had logs to burn, and having classically ornate mantels, their quaint windows set high from the floors and their dark antique decorations of a by-gone age, are left intact; and again I fall to wondering what sort of persons trod these floors, looked from these windows, loved and hoped and wept and died within these walls and whether they too mused upon the old fashions and queer customs of their predecessors.

But the "silence" is "unbroken" and the "stillness" gives "no token," for there are none left to answer, so I turn my thoughts from the things

that were to the things that are.

Among the many wonderful and quaintly interesting institutions of Paris, and yet one that is not always visited by the hasty tourist, is the Gobelins, the state-manufactory of that famous tapestry. The foundation of this manufactory, it is said, dates back as far as the time of Francis 1., but the product did not re-

ceive its present name until 1662, when the brothers Gobelin began its manufacture and produced not only tapestry but all sorts of royal furniture. "From this period," says one authority, dates the celebrity of the Gobelin tapestries, which are veritable works of art."

They are now reserved entirely for the government. for the draping of public buildings or as presents from the state to foreign courts, to persons of exalted rank and the like, and are en-

tirely withheld from the general market.

It is amazing to watch the busy weavers, for they work from the wrong side and the beautiful, finished portions are turned toward the visitor as he passes along in front. A large copy of the design in progress hangs at one side out of the workman's sight, but the small part on which he is actually engaged is drawn in crayon on the stretched threads. Behind him is a full sized copy of the finished design, and a basket in front of him holds his wools, fourteen thousand hues in all, each having twenty-four different shades.

Copies of famous paintings are reproduced not only with faultless accuracy as to details, but are actually more beautiful than the originals, on account of a softness and delicacy of tone wherein the colors blend with an imperceptibility of shading that is truly surprising, while there is no glitter or hardness of varnish to offend the eye.

I was struck with the smallness and delicacy of the workmen's hands; at first as I saw them weaving in and out, the owners themselves being invisible, I supposed them the hands of women, but learned later that no women are em-

ployed.

An area of six square inches is the average

daily task of each man. The loom does not especially differ from the ordinary machine. It is impossible for the casual observer to estimate the degree of patience, skill and exactitude, required in this work. Day after day these toilers sit here behind their looms, in silence and unceasing application, isolated from all visitors and almost from their kind, as the looms in front shut them off in a measure from their companions as well as from the public.

The Gobelins also include the Savonnerie, a carpet-factory started in 1604, by Marie de Medicis, in what was originally a soap-factory, hence the name, and which was united to the

Gobelins in 1826.

The main building of the Gobelins, which is very quaint and old, is situated in the Avenue des Gobelins, and is surrounded by a high wall. A large gate at one side, near which stands a uniformed attendant, is opened to the public on

Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

We enter an ancient little court with a tree or so at one side, and turning to the left come into the first of the exhibition rooms of which there are four, exclusive of the two work-shops, the staircases, the long corridor and the work-shop of the Savonnerie. On leaving this building, we step out into a quaint winding way between low, ancient, whitewashed structures, all within the inclosure, until we come again into the little court, at the farther end of which we find the chapel attached to the place.

This is indeed queer and old-timey. Its principal decorations are seventeenth century tapestries after paintings by Raphael. A portrait above the entrance is striking in its vivid life-

likeness.

I saw here something not included in any

guide-book or list of remarkable objects, but which, while astonishing and unique, lett in me no desire to ever again behold the like. I had noticed a figure in the ordinary garb of a lady, standing with back toward me before the medievaluation evidently consulting a hand-book. As I approached, this figure turned and dressed to me a civil inquiry, and I earnestly hope that the amazement and horror that I felt while endeavoring to reply, were not depicted on my countenance, for the "lady" had a welltrimmed and luxuriant moustache, which curled gracefully about her mouth in the most approved fashion. Her manner did not betoken the least consciousness of anything unusual in her appearance and, thanking me politely, the glided

quietly away.

Everywhere one goes one sees a continual washing and polishing of counter, window, floor and pavement. Men are scrubbing down the seats placed at intervals along the grand boulevards, also giving the railings and arbors in the gardens a thorough rinsing. Even in the cemeteries is seen on every hand the vigorous application of soap and water to both outside and inside of tombs. This sounds strange, but the tombs here are almost invariably temples of greater or lesser size, entered with as little difficulty as an ordinary dwelling. A tomb will contain probably one or more windows of stained glass, an altar of some description, a painting or piece of sculpture, perhaps a seat or two; in fact, there is almost as much variety in their interiors as in those of homes in general; but I must confess it has a singular effect as one is passing along the quiet though not deserted avenues, to hear voices from within these tombs, no occupant being visible. One involuntarily recalls that dismal old hymn beginning:

"Hark! from the tombs a doleful sound, Mine ears attend the cry,"

though the "sound" is more practical and energetic than "doleful," while the swish of brush and splash of water instantly banish all reflections of a supernatural tenor.

## CHAPTER XI.

About this time J again change my quarters and I now find myself in a typical French metropolitan dwelling-house. The average citizen of Paris is housed in this fashion with accessories more or less elegant, as his purse may warrant.

There are few streets in Paris in which the lower floors are not occupied by shops of some kind, but this where I now reside is one of the few that is given over to dwellings simply.

About two blocks from my habitation the street converges into the beautiful Avenue de l'Observatoire taken from the ancient palacegarden of the Luxembourg, a side entrance to the remaining area of which, lies just around the corner from my present abode; while the spacious and busy boulevard of St. Michael runs along the other side of the garden and also converges into the Avenue de l'Observatoire at the point mentioned above.

There is no tram nor omnibus line on my street and, as one stands at the end and looks along its length, it has an appearance of quietude almost deathly. But this quiet street has had some famous residents and stirring scenes in its time. Here Emile Littré compiled his great work, the Dictionary of the French Language, while living at No. 108; it was then called No. 48, Rue de l'Ouest. Littré himself has described the house as one from which the Communists fired upon the Versailles troops during three days. Littré died at No. 44. No. 76

has a tablet inscribed: Here lived Jules Michelet, the historian, born at Paris, August 22, 1798, died at Hyères (Var) February 9, 1874. No. 14 was long the residence of Pierre Jean David, the sculptor, called David of Angers, to distinguish him from Louis David the painter. At No 84 lived the painter Jerome Marie Langlois, a pupil of David the painter.

The buildings in this street look more like warehouses, factories, or even prisons than homes, for they stand flush with the pavements, having no areas, railings or outside steps, as with us, and across the lower windows is usually

some kind of an iron grating.

The houses are all of a smooth, cream-colored stone and are commonly faced up two or three feet with another stone of dark gray, rather somber in effect. A large double-door like a warehouse-entrance, on a level with the street, gives ingress to each; and whatever of loveliness or luxury there may appertain to these homes, is hidden from public view behind these doors.

Leaving the general for the particular, I ring the street-bell of my present domicile, whereupon I am admitted by the concierge. I cross the threshold and find myself in a lofty passage or vestibule, perhaps twenty feet broad, neatly paved, and having smooth stone walls finished The ceiling is ornamented off in pure white. with panels in low relief and supported by eight, symmetrical, snowy pillars. The cream-colored stone floor is cut in a decorative pattern and on each side run four wide, shallow, stone steps extending the whole length of the passage. the left side are two double-doors with upper halves of plate-glass; the first opens into the quarters of the concierge, for no French family ever lives on the ground floor of such a building,

unless attached to its service. The other door has upon it in gilt letters the name of an Agency, and I presume leads to an office. These doors are joined to each other and to the two end walls by large windows, also of plate-glass. On the right hand is but one door also double and glassed, on each side of which is a handsome pedestal about three feet high, upon which stands a beautiful, large porcelain lamp of exquisite design, looking like some rare vase. Spread along the steps at each side, are soft, bright rugs, very clean. Within the right hand door one sees a fine mosaic pavement and a light, seemingly constructed ornamental staircase chiefly of glittering brass; this winds up and away into regions unknown to me, as my way lies farther on; I may say, however, that each

floor is a separate flat.

I imagine that the lot of a Paris postman "is not a happy one." True he does not have to mount all these stairs and visit all these flats. for the outer concierge takes charge of all the mail or parcels coming into the building, which by the way has but one number for all its many divisions; as for instance in this place we are all "No. 70," though there must be as many a dozen families in the house. But though the concierge thus far relieves the postman, the latter must still be on the alert, for mails are delivered here not only in the daytime on weekdays, but also in the evenings and on Sunday. The postman wears a dark blue uniform and his mail is carried in a shallow, square box of many compartments and is suspended horizontally in front of the man by means of straps from the shoulders. Stamps, aside from at the postoffices, may be purchased of the tobacconists. Tobacco being a governmental product and under its protection, a license is necessary for the sale of the weed, and with this is given the right to sell stamps.

But I have not yet reached my apartment. At the farther end of the vestibule is another large double-door, of stained glass. This has no bell nor lock, so I turn the handle and step into a large, open court perhaps fifty feet square. I use the term, open, in the sense of having no roof; it is, however, fully inclosed otherwise by the four inner walls of the building, six stories high besides the attic. The edifice is, in fact, built around this court, so that the latter is shut off from the street and all other outside communication, by, in effect, a lofty barrier two rooms deep on all sides.

The court is paved with ornamentally cut stone; in the center, elevated by one or two very broad shallow steps, is a curbing of fanciful design perhaps twenty by twenty-five feet in dimensions, which is filled with earth and set out in flowers and shrubs. This plot, by the way, is called a "garden."

The main apartments of the structure face this court, and six rows of windows, besides the dormer windows of the attic, look down upon it and receive no more air and light than may enter from above. In this respect the higher flats are the more favored; residing in the lower ones is something like living within a deep well.

Across the court from the entrance is still another double-door, half glass like the others, before which are more wide, light-stone steps and more bright clean rugs. Pulling another bell, I evoke another concierge who admits me into a hall about twelve feet wide. Another floor cut out in patterns, this time of marble, and covered with a soft rug through the center, leads

to another staircase opposite. This stairway is of polished hardwood, but mercifully to the an-

kles, a carpet is laid in the middle.

Each landing is lighted by a large window of stained glass. Through these when open, may be seen the tiniest imaginable space of greenery, a shrub or two, and a high, iron fence, immediately on the other side of which rise the grimlooking walls of a great convent which, facing the other way, shuts us off from the street behind us.

I walk up the last mentioned stairs, turning at the half-way landing, and find myself on the first floor, (foreign reckoning,) where I am admitted by the bonne and go down the hall to my room, for I have at last reached the particular flat in which, for the time being, I dwell When ensconced here, there are between me and the public street, three solid walls, (for my room faces the court on the further side,) one single and four double-doors. It is quite a proceeding to really get outside, and in the case of those who dwell in the upper stories, it becomes a pilgrimage, as elevators are unconceived of. I wonder if all this difficulty of access, all this getting away as far as possible from the public gaze, arose from the necessity in ancient, rude and war like times, of placing the family, usually tender and helpless, as distant as possible from outside attacks.

It is difficult in viewing the Paris of to-day, to realize its tumultuous and terrible past. The scenes of violence, bloodshed and destruction have, almost without exception, been so completely transformed and beautified that one must turn to the pages of history to find evidence that affairs have ever been other than as now.

But there is one stately ruin standing to-day in what is known as the Aristocratic Quarter that testifies silently yet powerfully to a season of terror not very far removed from the present time.

This is the Palais d'Orsay, built in 1810-35 and latterly used by the Conseil d'Etat and the

Cour des Comptes.

In the dark days of '71, this palace was fired by the Communards, and to-day the lofty exterior walls, still standing in spite of their terrible ordeal, are all that is left to witness to the grandeur and dignity of the once magnificent structure. It is an imposing edifice even now, covering the area bounded by the Quay d' Orsay, and the streets of Lille, Poitiers and Bellechasse, but the interior is completely gutted; chaotic heaps of broken masonry here and there, while suggesting something of the outline and dimensions of grand salon and gallery, yet preserve no indication of the former elegance and beauty of and decoration. All is silence now within its roofless chambers into which the sunshine and the rain of heaven alike fall pitilessly, while vines and shrubs look out of the empty window-spaces.

The public gardens of Paris are beginning to appear very lovely now with wealth of leaf and bud. Not a great profusion as yet but enough

to brighten and ornament the scene.

In all these numberless beautiful gardens belonging to the municipality, laid out with skill and art and embellished with statues, ponds, fountains, and flowers, the children have full sway and are allowed to run, romp, roll and disport themselves altogether as they see fit. Some of the gardens are of modern origin; others date back several hundred years and have seen dynas-

ties rise and fall; but whatever they are, they are open from morning until night, for the

special benefit of the rising generation.

It gives much food for meditation to stroll through the ancient palace-gardens such as those of the Louvre, the Tuileries, the Palais Royale the Luxumbourg, Versailles and the like, all planned and perfected by a corrupt and selfish royalty for its own exclusive enjoyment, and to mark the freedom with which all classes of people (except indeed the very class of those ancient aristocrats themselves) now pervade for rest or recreation these once sacredly guarded precincts: while their children, shouting from terrace or leafy nook, wake echoes once answering only to the stir of a royal retinue; or, racing down the winding avenues and around the marble margins of plashing waters, do tread all unabashed and unrebuked in the footsteps of ancient kings.

## CHAPTER XII.

I left Paris one mild morning in a drizzling rain, so that my last view of her avenues and

vistas was as through a mist of tears.

Not at all, however, did I regret leaving this wondrous city, the magnificence and beauty of which are so indescribable, but whose spacious areas and splendid structures seem somehow designed merely for external display, with little thought throughout those broad stretches, of the inner domesticity and cosy hominess so dear to less excitable if also less brilliant peoples.

Parisians as a rule seem to live in public and to seek home only for reasons somewhat similar to that influencing the too convivial gentleman who went home at four o'clock in the morning, "because all the other places were shut up."

I shall not soon forget the extreme surprise and volubly expressed amazement of both mistress and maids at my pension, when occasionally, wearied out by incessant promenading and sight-seeing, I elected to pass the day quietly in my own room.

"What! Madame has not gone out? But surely, Madame goes out presently? Madame does not stay with herself all the day. That

understands itself without saying!"

Thus the women of the household; and no one of them, mistress or servant, seemed to be able to approach that point of view wherefrom it might appear reasonable or satisfactory to refrain from making a *sortie* into the outer world.

This seems the prevailing state of opinion; and perhaps it is not inexplicable why the seclusion of the domestic hearth is not so prized by this light-hearted, emotional folk, as by some other nationalities.

In the first place, the "domestic hearth" scarcely exists even as a figure of speech. The homes in general, as noted before, are damp and, to the American, dark and somewhat dismal. Fuel is expensive and brought in only in small quantities. Such a thing as keeping up a continual fire for general warmth is almost unknown.

As soon as a meal is prepared, the cooking fire is extinguished, while the small fire lit in the dining-room just before each meal, is carefully raked out as soon as the meal is over. But the most surprising feature of it all is that the "native" does not seem chilly and, even while the American is shivering, opens doors and windows for fresh air.

In a land of continual sunshine, like Italy or California, I can understand how persons get into a habit of going out of doors to keep warm; but in Paris where there is so much chill rain and often quite protracted spells of really cold weather, it is incomprehensible to me that they should not, unless in poverty, strive to be a little cosier at home.

Of course sun and light are not so easily obtained as artificial warmth might be. The living-rooms, looking out as they usually do upon high, closed courts that shut off much of what sunlight might otherwise shine directly in at the windows, are often in the shadow all day long, which does not add to their cheeriness, nor can their occupants command any view of what is going on in the outside world.

Then the French custom of breaking fast in the morning with a bit of bread and a draught of coffee taken alone, either in bed or during the toilet, does away with the pleasant and hospitable reunion around the breakfast table, which our own countrymen so highly prize; and the average Frenchman hurries out into the street as soon as may be, for warmth and society. What wonder then that the brilliantly lighted restaurants and the wide, clean avenues with their constantly shifting throngs of gay comers and goers, should seem most attractive to these volatile people, especially here where they have made their city with very little exception, the most splendid and beautiful in the world.

But now it was behind me and I was soon speeding over a green and fertile country and

through thrifty, picturesque towns.

I could not but note the difference between the United States and France, in the degree of care taken to reduce to a minimum the danger of railway accidents. Everywhere was the approach to a station most carefully guarded. Nowhere did a railway and a country-road cross at the same level; either by a strong bridge or a well-walled excavation did the train pass over or under the wagon ways; and throughout the whole course, the tracks were laid between earth trenches well protected by thickly growing hedge or solid mason-work, so that by no possibility could any creature, biped or quadruped, find itself upon the rails unguarded. Recalling the manner in which our trains at home dash through crowded cities and out across the open, utterly unprotected country, I could not but feel that we might learn much in regard to the proper care and preservation of life, even from these same "volatile" Frenchmen.

There is not much in the scenery along this "Road of Iron of the East," to keep one's attention as we journey on hour after hour with the rain still gently falling. We pass through an undulating country well watered with noble streams and fair with verdant fields. There is little to remind an American that one is in a foreign land, except perhaps the sight of peasant women of all ages toiling on the fermes at the most menial of out-door tasks, the extreme tidiness and "finish" of homes and gardens, and the dramatic vivacity of the alien tongue at the stations.

I soon turned my attention to the interior of my carriage. For the first time I now found myself in a second-class compartment and I looked curiously about to see what manner of place it might be. It certainly was not luxurious but was very comfortable. As in most continental carriages, it opened at each side by a door into a narrow lane running between two rows of seats facing each other, each row accommodating five passengers with barely room for opposing knees and feet. Light was admitted by small windows at each end of the two rows of seats and through the glass upper half of the two doors. Window-curtains of some coarse, dark-blue worsted stuff; walls and ceilings being covered with the same; the former being padded up three or four feet to form backs for the seats, which were cushioned in the same darkblue.

There were no means of heating the place nor any provision for artificial light; no opportunity for moving about nor, if the compartment were filled, of changing one's position; no toilet conveniences of the simplest description and no way of getting out until released by the garde.

For several hours I traveled on alone and undisturbed. I had paid a man an extra franc to put me into a carriage but had not thought to stipulate for a "non-smoker;" in compartments not labeled thus, smoking is permitted if no occupant objects, with the exception of the places reserved for ladies alone; there are also still other compartments labeled "Smokers," where one must not demur at smoking if one takes a place there. During the course of the day, ladies and children came and went, but no one wished to smoke until late in the afternoon when my solitude was invaded by eight men, evidently commercial travelers, one of whom politely inquired if his smoking would be offensive to me; I replied literally that it would not, but when, without further inquiry, the remaining seven also produced cigars and began vigorously puffing the same, I did feel that I had fallen a victim to my good-nature. But after an hour or two, these gentlemen departed as they had come, in a body, and I was left again in solitude.

And what a solitude it is. Not a sound but the steadily rolling wheels and the occasional high, thin "toot" of the whistle, which is something entirely different from the ear-splitting shriek of our engines in America. No possible way of communicating with any human beings between stations. In fact, a prisoner in solitary confinement am I, only to be let out at the discretion of the guard. I cannot call him "conductor," he is so utterly unlike anyone we recognize under that title. He seems to have the vaguest idea of anything one would suppose to belong properly to his province; exhibits the greatest indifference as to one's tickets; indeed, on mine is a printed request that the "voya-

geur"will see personally that "the right coupon is detached at the right place!" He never gives any information as to necessary change of trains or other details, unless specially importuned, and even then his replies are unreliable and persons are left to find their way about as their intuition suggests. All this is rather hard on strangers in a strange land and of a strange tongue.

However I cannot help feeling sorry for the guard, he looks so forlorn, as he runs along in the rain outside the carriages, first on one side and then on the other, now and then casually mentioning the name of the station as he trots down the line. He does not look in at the windows and one would not suppose from his demeanor, that the travelers had the least interest in the matter. Then he disappears. I have yet to learn what becomes of him between stations.

What a contrast to our brazen-lunged trainmen of stentorian tones. Can my "lone sister" imagine anyhow, a train with no brakemen, no pop-corn and gum fiend, no time-card, no literature, no ice-water, "no nothing," so to

speak?

About this time, I gather from sights and sounds at a station we approach, that there is some refreshment to be had. The guard re-appears and unlocks my door; I question him and find that I am not in error. I step out, (the carriages abroad are almost invariably on a level with the platforms, so there is no climbing up and down) and follow the crowd into a long room filled with small tables. I have a cup of coffee with milk and sugar and a roll with butter,—I mention items because each is charged for separately, butter, milk and sugar not being matters of course, as with us,—for which I pay

about ten cents, United States, and start to go back, but now to my astonishment I find I cannot get out. I naturally had returned to the door by which I entered, but find that locked and exit cut off. Then on diligent inquiry, I am directed hither and thither, through narrow passages, in at this door and out at that, until finally after a tortuous way, I emerge with bewildered brain, at a totally different point from that at which I had entered the building.

Two or three ladies now join me in my compartment and from their conversation, (which I must of necessity hear, there being no privacy in these carriages,) I learn that at the next station we reach the Belgian frontier, where our

luggage must be examined.

I am very glad to be thus forewarned, otherwise I should have been sorely dismayed at the sudden invasion of our carriage as it comes to a halt, by two or three excited men who seize our hand-luggage and rush off with it. We follow, though the men have vanished; we make our way into a large room where everyone must claim his or her possessions, produce keys and

submit to the inspection.

There are two points to be considered; dutiable articles and overweight of permissible commodities. It is a little odd that one may have as much hand-luggage as one can get into his compartment, with no extra charge, but on all that goes into the luggage-van, one must pay extra in France for anything over sixty pounds, in Germany all over fifty-five pounds, and in Belgium for every pound. These regulations and the usually short distances from one frontier to another, necessitate a continual opening, weighing and re-weighing of trunks, baskets and boxes, most tedious to experience,

as everybody must go personally to attend to the matter. But there is no hurry. Everyone seems to have plenty of time and at last it is over once more. Here again we find ourselves locked in: after many efforts I discover that the exit is at the opposite side from the entrance, and as before, in an entirely different part of the building, but after turning here and there through more doors, we come into a large waiting-room which we are directed to cross and finally are permitted to come into the open air, when we all trail back again to our places,

fee our porters and set off once more.

And now we enter Belgium. No beauty is there to be seen here along the line of the railway. Occasionally a few grim, sterile looking hills and now and then a fine river, but the country is mostly flat and uninteresting and black with its numerous coal and iron works with all their unlovely products. We roll along with little variety until we have traversed the tiny country and reach the German outposts. It seems strange to reflect that I have crossed two countries and entered a third in a little more than half a day, when at home I have traveled day after day and night after night without ever getting outside the boundaries of the grand and glorious United States. A little "spreadeagle-ism" may perhaps be pardoned in one who, having been for several months remote from "Columbia, the gem of the ocean," begins to yearn for the freedom and progress of that "happy land."

But here we are in Germany, another customhouse must be gone through, with another weighing of luggage, another set of porters to fee and another settling down to our places.

I was startled at the sudden contrast of the

North German physique to that of the lean, wiry, little Frenchmen among whom I had been so long. The officials here were a wonderfully fine looking set of men with brilliant and handsome uniforms. The station-masters, I learn, always wear a bright orange cap, so they are easily identified. One lordly creature in splendid cap and bright green, braided costume con-

descended to inspect my trunk.

He stood on one side and I on the other of the long, low barrier that runs across all these baggage-rooms. He undid one strap and ordered, not requested me to undo the other; astonished, I complied. He then took hold of one end of the tray and ordered me to lift the Speechless with amazement, I obeyed. He then deigned to proceed without further mandates. wondered afterward what would have happened had I refused to obey his commands, probably something equal to "battle, muider and sudden death," for in Germany man is indeed, "lord supreme," and unless yielding homage to rank and position, absolutely lacking, as a rule, in any of that deference that the genuine American, whatever his station. always pays to women, young or old, lovely or otherwise. I almost wished I had told the official to "do it himself." However, I was too much startled to "let my angry passions rise" and did not, in fact, fully take in the extent of the man's-perhaps I should say "the gentleman-and-officer's-- "rudeness until I was once more in my little compartment.

I may add here for the benefit of my "solitary woman" the sum of information gleaned later by me on this point. The usage is that any woman, gentle or simple, unless having a servant of some kind, must wait upon herself the same as a man does; though should it get whispered

about that she is of high rank, she would receive servile attention. If one travels without a maid or man-servant, one may fee a porter to undo straps and other little jobs difficult for a woman to manage, but no service will be volunteered gratis nor should one ask it. One pays the porter what one pleases, from about two cents up; one would wish to be just and certainly not mean, but the veteran traveler never gives inordinate fees.

Our progress was soon again interrupted, for at the next station we had to change trains with yet again the bother of claiming boxes, bags and bundles and feeing porters. But our change was a vast improvement on our situation. We were now on the governmental railway of Prussia and found that second-class cars in Germany are as good as, and more convenient than, first-class in France.

This compartment held places for six; the customary lane ran from side to side connecting opposite doors; the long, back seat was divided by movable arms into two of two places each; opposite was another double-seat facing, the occupants of which must ride backward.

In the space usually devoted to a continuation of this short seat, was a door leading into one of the tiniest lavatories, having the scantiest of furnishings. This opened also into the next compartment, one lavatory thus serving for two

compartments.

In each compartment a "Danger Brake" was fixed on one wall with a placard stating how and when it might be used and the penalties for misuse. Another complicated arrangement was also provided, with directions for summoning help in the case of illness or aggression on the part of any of the passengers. There was an

electric bell "for the use of ladies." There was an apparatus by which, through moving a lever, the temperature could be changed from "cold" to "medium" or to "hot", though I am sure I should never dare to meddle with this or the others. As a farther provision for safety, the walls of the compartment failed by a few inches to reach the ceiling, thus making it possible for anyone, by standing upon a seat, to survey the interior of the next compartment and thus, I suppose, to cause any chance villain who might desire to injure his fellow-travelers, to realize that he was, theoretically, under surveillance, though I fear that, practically, the arrangement would be of little avail.

The seats were upholstered in corded velvet of a grayish brown, very soft and comfortable; foot-rug and curtains of the same hue; ceiling and walls decorated with a neat, cheerful paper; while a small lamp fixed in the center of the roof would provide enough light in an emergency

"to make the darkness visible."

One lady accompanied me in the change but after a few miles she also vanished and I was

left journeying onward alone.

The sun had now come out and the country looked very pleasing; not unlike the region of the United States through Wisconsin and Minnesota; not quite so well-watered perhaps, but the aspect of things in general made it seem not at all incomprehensible that our North-German immigrants are able to settle down so contentedly among us in that section.

The first stage of my journey ends at Cologne and I step out toward evening at this city of fragrant associations. After many formalities, (which, however, need not disconcert the "lone

female," even though she does not understand German, if she will keep calm and hold her ticket plainly visible,) I am safely inducted into a cab and soon am driving forth with wonder and interest through the streets of this historic town.

## CHAPTER XIII.

I can hardly describe, much less account for, the comfortable feeling that took possession of me as soon as I began to mingle in German scenes and to come in contact with the German people.

Somehow a sensation of confidence and "athome-a-tive-ness" pervaded my mental being at once, of which I had not the slightest experience

during all my sojourn in France.

Possibly it may be attributed to the fact that a resident of Wisconsin must necessarily be somewhat familiar with the German type, with its method of thought and with the sound of its language, and though both type and tongue are markedly modified with us, by the influence of American environment, yet there is enough similarity in countenance and cadence here to make me feel that I am not among utter strangers. The rosy, rotund, blonde and beaming gentlemen and the fair, friendly and amiable ladies whom I see all about, may be met in counterpart any day at home, while the familiar rames I note everywhere intensify the home feeling.

Then, as a general thing, the German is a well-balanced being. He does not fly off in a tangent of wild excitement on the slightest or no provocation. Neither does he seem to have a deeprooted suspicion of all foreigners nor lay him self out at once to get the better of all such by sharp practices. He seems to assume that strangers mean to be fair and honorable in dealing with him, and he is willing to give them the

benefit of a doubt in all that he may not understand.

Again, his, or perhaps I should say her, house-keeping is very like our own. The country is full of homes and restful places for the weary. Their couches and chairs are made for rest, their rooms are light and warm, (though they do not overheat them as the Americans do,) and their "front apartments" are not at the back, but survey the pleasant avenues and the tasteful gardens so arranged that their beauty may be

enjoyed by passers by.

As with us, the family gathers at the breakfast table, though one does not find the variety at this meal that Americans expect; this however can generally be obtained by order-"American breakfast," and paying extra for the added dishes. Two is the usual hour for dinner, seven for supper; breakfast is a more movable feast ranging from half past seven to nine. As a result of this routine, I presume, banking hours are from nine to two and from five to seven. Tea and coffee are served at these meals much more commonly than in France, and without extra charge, though beer-drinking is universal and that of wine almost as much so; but our United States habit of ice-water drinking is incomprehensible to the German as well as most other foreigners; in consequence, the average United Statesian meets with considerable ridicule, generally good-natured, for his aqua-imbibing propensities; but usually unless very young or foreignized by long residence, he maintains his abstemiousness in this respect. This practice is a scource of surprise and even dismay to the friendly foreigners one meets, and often, some kind-hearted persons would take an opportunity to remonstrate with

me on account of what they deemed my pernicious habit. "Why, you will certainly be ill," they would exclaim, "it is impossible to drink water habitually, without getting one's system out of order." "But I do it at home," I would reply.

"Oh!" they would cry, "but you Americans have more typhoid fever than any other nation

in the world,"

"But I never had typhoid fever in my life," I would rejoin. Still they would not leave me to my fate. "Mark my words," they would add impressively, "you cannot do it here. Be

warned in time."

But I persisted in imbibing the crystal fluid, though I will confess that at first, supposing some subtle danger might lurk therein, I strove to satisfy my thirst with wine and beer; but very shortly decided that I would suffer illness if so it must be, rather than swallow the sour and bitter stuff that I saw consumed all about me with such relish. Then as I remained provokingly healthy, my companions would regard me with amazement; no doubt exclaiming, like the old-school physician whose fever patient recovered after swallowing a strenuously forbidden pitcherful of ice-water:

"Great Heavens, what a constitution!"

But I was proud to find that with most foreigners, the name of American, especially from the United States, was synonomous with temperance, if not total abstinence; and by the way, I was amused to note that "American" means a United States citizen, with the average native of the Old World. "Is so-and-so an American?" I would ask.

"Oh, no! He is a Canadian," would be the reply, or a Mexican, or whatever the case

might be.

"But Canada is in America," I would remark.
"Oh! is it?" many would rejoin; while others, especially among the English, might say: "Oh, well! We never think of them as Americans."

In Germany, coffee with light wafers or kucken is usually served at four o'clock and sometimes tea also, though the fashion of drinking the latter in the middle of the afternoon, is an exotic from England, as it is in France and America. There is always a hearty welcome for a friend or stranger and the "house-mother" is seldom absent from her post, where she provides for the comfort of all. One peculiarity at least, of social etiquette in Germany surprises the foreigner, that is the requirement that the stranger shall make the advances toward acquaintance with residents, calling upon them for purposes of introduction.

On my arrival in Cologne my first act was to refresh the inner woman, which I did with, among other things, the first cup of really good coffee that I had found since I left home, and the first butter that did not taste like whipped cream.

My room was light, airy, clean and well-furnished, at a moderate charge; seventy-five cents a day, I believe, with fifteen cents additional for service, but no extra charge for heat and light; tips ad libitum; there was an exceedingly comfortable bed, though this is no rarity as I found excellent beds everywhere. One never sees the large English double-bed in France or Germany, always single; if the bed-room is intended for two persons, there are two beds.

Of course in the hotels, linen is changed daily, as with us; but 1 was glad to find later in the pensions,—for the Germans have adopted the French term,—that more liberal ideas are prevalent than

in France, bed-linen being changed once in a fortnight, "Just as they do in England," to quote my German hostess; and as a week is only seven days as with us, there is consequently a difference of ten days in the time one is expected

to use one's slips and sheets.

The Germans also have more advanced views in regard to towels, though bath-rooms are almost as rare as in France. But I will say for the pensions of both countries, that the linen and bedding furnished are of excellent quality, soft, fairly fine, ample and sweet smelling, and the room-fittings as a rule far surpass in quality and comfort, those provided at greater cost in our own country. This last clause applies also to the table, where usually much care is shown to appointments and serving though the list of dishes is much shorter. The housekeeping I find immaculate everywhere. But this is a digression. I return to my hotel.

Wonder of wonders, there is here an elevator. As we use that term, while the English say "lift" and the French "ascender," (translated,) I was curious to know the German designation, so asked the lad at hand; to my amusement he replied "riding-chair," (also translated.)

The next morning I began my exploration of Cologne. It is a fine city and, as we all know, full of special interest. The "sweet waters" that have made its name a household word everywhere, are to be seen on sale on every side,

in gayly decorated flasks more or less elegant.

The great cathedral attracts one's attention at once. Would that I could fully express the singular impression of extreme airiness, delicacy and elegance, conveyed by this wondrous structure, which is at the same time so grand and imposing. Inapplicable as the word may seem

to such a pile of stone, the epithet "lovely" im-

mediately rises to one's lips.

The two twin towers reaching up so far away into the vault of heaven are a landmark for many and many a mile both up and down the Rhine, and far off over the hills and plains out from the city.

Though the tallest towers in Europe, in fact, I believe the tallest of any structure in the world, they soar aloft with a marvelous grace which is exquisitely blended with an impressive

majesty.

One should ascend these towers not only for the far-sweeping view, but to look upon the great bells and to read the inscription upon the huge Kaiserylocke, which some one has translated thus:

> "I am the Emperor's bell; The Emperor's praise I tell; On holy guard I stand, And for the German land Beseech that God may please To grant it peace and ease."

The bells in the southern tower were hung about the middle of fourteen hundred, and the enormous crane that did the work remained undisturbed until 1868.

Strange that the name of the original architect of this marvelous creation, should be lost in the mists of obscurity. It is ascribed by many, though, I believe, without sufficient corroboration, to Albertus Magnus; and even he is supposed to have been assisted by supernatural agents, the Virgin appearing to him in a dream with four canonized masons, Severus, Severinus, Carpophorus, and Victorinus, who sketched the plans in lines of fire. Awaking, Albertus hastened to

reproduce them, but refused to call them his own, ascribing them to the hand of God.

Another legend, however, imputes this supernatural interference to a directly opposite power, and declares that the devil appeared to Gerhard, an ambitious young architect, and dared him to originate something more splendid than had yet been achieved; after attempting this in vain, unintentionally producing only copies of famous plans, he shouted angrily, "Do it yourself, then!" Whereat His Satanic Majesty did it, but at the price of Gerhard's soul; but just as he was about to sign the contract, he bethought himself of a holy silver cross which he wore and, having the plans safe, he drew the cross forth and dared the devil to "come on."

The baffled devil retired breathing fire and vengeance and vowing, "You will find, presumptuous one, that it is unwise to be dishonest even with the devil Though you build the cathedral with my plans, your own name shall be forgotten forever."

The earthly fate of this daring young architect was peculiar; for "while he did direct those that toiled," there opened "suddenly a great pit whereout came a great and loathly worm" which seized the poor man and. cracking his neck, drew him into the pit which then closed up and he was seen no more. In the south tower, upon two pillars of the west side, may be seen two ancient gargoyles said to be a "true likeness" of Gerhard and his faithful dog; the animal catching hold of his master's gown, strives to draw him back from the pit, but is engulfed with him.

The moral of this legend is dubious, seeming to imply that it would have been better not to outwit the devil but to acquiesce in his schemes. The only definite fact connected with the name of Gerhard is that he was the first superinten-

dent of the building of the edifice.

The history of this cathedral from the first inception of the sacred edifice in the mind of Hildebold in the beginning of the ninth century, down to the placing of the final copestone by Emperor William I., in 1880, is most varied and

exciting.

Bombardment, conflagration, spoilation, destruction and even murder are associated with the gradual, often intermitted, progress of this great and noble work, until now it stands proclaiming,—to quote a royal patron and promoter of the sublime undertaking,—"to yet unborn generations, a Germany which, owing to the unity of its princes and people, is great and powerful, and bloodlessly compels peace among the nations of the world."

Entering the magnificent structure at the main portal, I found another variety of the genus Suisse or beadle. This one wore a long, flowing robe of scarlet, finely ornamented in black, and on his head was a high cap or turban of black velvet. He carried a long rod of office and stood guard in the center of the great nave. He was, however, not so gloomily dignified as his French brother, strange to say, but seemed of an affable disposition and kindly whispered to us to "please keep still until mass was over."

I had not known till then that a service was in progress, as the worshippers were in a far-off angle not readily visible from where we stood. They soon quietly dispersed and the visitors wandered about here and there, admiring and

marveling.

All the proportions and decorations throughout are, of course, beautiful and magnificent to an unspeakable degree, but here, as in other instances,—though it goes to my heart to pass on without my best tribute to the ineffable loveliness and majestic sublimity that almost moves one to tears from very excess of emotion,—I only pause to mention something unusually quaint or antique which might possibly escape notice by one who were properly describing, as many have described already, the glory and grandeur of this and other famous wonders of art.

To get at once a comprehensive view of the whole magnificent interior, one may ascend to a gallery in the eastern pillar of the south portal. In the north wall are some very odd, ancient, stained windows dating from the sixteenth century. In one of these appears the figure of the founder of Cologne, holding the standard of the city, while underneath is the inscription (freely translated) in that rhyming-couplet so dear to the German mind of the middle ages:

"Marcus Agrippa, a Roman man, The Agrippa Colony first began."

Opposite him is Marsilius with his little rhyme:

"Marsylis proud, a heathen's son, Held Cologne and triumphs won."

Queer neighbors they, these rude and warlike men, for the Holy Family, the Magi, the Saints George, Maurice and others who occupy the rest of the window.

Below the organ is a wooden urn dating back to 1063, containing the remains of Queen Richeza of Poland. St. Peter's staff is one of the curiosities here; also an image of the Virgin, "which," as an inscription testifies, "has worked many miracles:" here too are "the relics of the Magi," received in 1164 from the abbess of a Milan convent, and which rest beneath a marble monument of rare beauty in the Chapel of the Magi, the fourth chapel of the choir.

The beautiful windows of the choir are the oldest in the cathedral, being of the twelfth century. Others equally beautiful are placed on the left of the nave and date from the fif-

teenth.

The right of the nave, however, has been fitted up with hideous specimens of modern achievement. They were probably expensive, as they were the gift of William of Prussia and Ludwig of Bavaria, but they compare with the others somewhat as a cheap chromo might with an ancient masterpiece of oil.

The choir itself, so grandly and somberly magnificent, has seen many mutations during its completion. At one time houses were built all around it and where the nave should have been, and during the occupation of Napoleon First, the French used it as a forage storehouse.

Opposite the Chapel of the Magi is a monument in memory of Archbishop Dietrich von Moers, 1860, excessively ornate and consisting of several figures of most sacred personages, such as the Virgin, the Infant Jesus, St. Peter and others, who are represented as associating in the most intimate and friendly manner with the aforesaid bishop. There is an epitaph of the most fulsome praise, extoling Dietrich to a superlative degree, but unfortunately an unappreciative and skeptical posterity unkindly declares that the bishop not only ordered the monument, but actually wrote the eulogy himself.

The seven chapels about the choir are filled

with curious and costly objects of historic and artistic interest, but I must not stop for details. Archbishop Philip von Heinsburg lies in a huge, battlemented tomb, thus signifying that he first fortified Cologne.

A mighty figure in solid brass lying upon his tomb under a Gothic arch, represents the great

Konrad.

The greatest art-treasure in Cologne is the famous Dombild, or Cathredal-Picture, a triptych of Meister Wilhelm's, representing the Adoration of the Magi, and to the uninitiated, it would seem that it should be in the chapel of that name, but for reasons wise, no doubt, we find it in that of St. Michael, though formerly in St. Agnes' shrine. The central panel shows the Magi offering presents to the Child; their followers throng the background on the wings, St. Ursula and her maidens on the left, St. Gercon with warriors on the right; on the outside of the wings, the Annunciation.

The city of Cologne, as perhaps some "lone sister" may have forgotten, had its origin in a military colony (whence the name) placed here by Marcus Agrippa fifty years before Christ, so it really was old before the first conception of even the predecessors of the cathedral was realized. Intensely interesting as is the narrative of the city's rise, progress, decline and later return to importance, or "boom," as we of the later day might term it, yet it is but one of the innumerable, fascinating spots of this wondrous "Old World," to which no manner of justice can be

done by the casual tourist.

A weird reminiscence of former trying times is observed at St. Ursula, where are exhibited in glass cases what are said to be the skulls and bones of eleven thousand virgins who came with the holy Ursula, a British princess, to Cologne, where they suffered death as martyrs. St. Ursula's bones are deposited in a shrine in the sacristy which is also said to contain a curiosity catalogued as "one of the wine-jugs used at the marriage of Cana." These various bones are exhibited for a consideration and are truly a revolting and piteous spectacle.

Most of the streets of Cologne are narrow, with queer-looking houses, also narrow and of

peculiar architecture.

At a corner of Neu-Markt and Richmodis streets, may be seen a building from the attic of which two wooden horses are looking out. Con-

cerning these the legend runs thus:

In fourteen hundred, when Cologne was terribly devastated by the plague, Richmodis, wife of knight Menges von Aduct, was one of the victims and was buried in the Apostles Church. Her wedding-ring was left upon her finger and the grave-diggers noticing the same, went the next night to steal it.

They opened the grave and the cossin, but their rough attempts to remove the ring, roused her from the trance into which she had fallen; she started up, frightening away the thieves, and ran back to her home where she knocked for

admittance.

The servants alarmed ran to their master. He went to the door and demanded who was there.

"Your wife," was the answer.

"Ah!" he exclaimed in sorrow, "my wife Richmodis is dead, and my horses would sooner ascend to the loft of my house and look.out of the window, than she would be asking to come in."

Scarcely were the words uttered when the

horses were heard going upstairs, and in commemoration these wooden heads were affixed to the windows. One can only say to the sceptic, "If you don't believe it, I can show you the windows."

In Sternengasse, No. 10, stands a house on which are placed two memorial tablets, one declaring that Marie de Medicis died, the other that Reubens was born here. I believe the former statement is not contradicted, but the latter is false, though it is true that he passed a part of his early childhood in this dwelling.

Aside from these and like relics of an olden time, there are in Cologne, numerous charming modern avenues containing magnificent buildings of varied and beautiful designs, as well as shady promenades and handsome squares. A series of elegantly planned boulevards, denominated Ringstrassen, extend around the whole town.

I took a leisurely survey of these from the window of a horse-tram one lovely day. A very friendly conductor added much to my pleasure and stock of information, by his cheerful conversation.

A cheery, gentlemanly sort of a young fellow he was; he left his car and took the utmost pains in piloting me safely to another when I left his line. It did seem odd to have him accept with a "danke sehr" and without indignation, a coin or two of trifling value when we parted, and I have learned since that I gave twice what might have been expected.

I should have become accustomed to the "tip" system by this time, but it still gives me a shock every now and then when some well-appearing, courteous person betrays his or her inferior origin by the placid acceptance of one's small change.

Usually at first the American mind, in chatting with a sociable stranger, considers it only a case of mutual information and interest; but gradually one awakens to a realizing sense that the affable individual is only lying in wait for one's loose silver. Sometimes it is hard to know just what to do. I have often spent a miserable half hour when visiting some famous gallery or palace, in trying to decide whether the splendid creature in immaculate and decorated "get-up" who has shown me so much polite attention, is really an official to whom it would be wildly insulting to offer recompense, or just a common person who is confidently calculating on what he may receive. But I have generally found it to be the latter. Often too, it has seemed to me the height of impertinence to proffer fifteen twenty-five cents to the important and responsible head-clerk or manager of my hostelry, though, to be sure, he is not so imposing a being as his prototype in America. I find, however, that he is always willing to accept the slightest favor in this line.

I saw no electric trams in Cologne. In fact, electricity is little used abroad in comparison to America; foreigners usually consider it far too dangerous for familiar use. The German management of the street-car system, as noted here and confirmed by later observation, struck me as very sensible. In the first place, one pays according to the distance one rides, all the way from five pfenniges (about a cent and a quarter,) up to twenty-five or thirty pfenniges; I have never found it higher. Then one receives a ticket showing how much money has been paid. The cars are neat and well-kept, with a definite number of seats as in Paris, so that there is very little crowding. Expectoration is most

strictly prohibited. There are many points in our foreign cousins' ordering of the transportation business in general, that we might copy with great benefit to our own methods.

Later on I took a stroll out through an old arched gateway, along a delightful road skirted on one side by beautiful gardens, both public and private, and on the other by the silver, flowing waters of the romantic river Rhine.

How fair it all was, glowing in the "evening sunset shine" till one could almost seem to see the "Niebelungen's ruddy gold" reflected from the depths of the clear waters, back upon the pleasant paths and parterres above. It is not hard in Germany to muse and dream.

### CHAPTER XIV.

My next stopping-place was Duesseldorf, an hour or so from Cologne. Again I was locked in all by myself and so continued in solitary state absolutely uninterrupted, until I reached my destination.

There were no halts, the train being express, so there was nothing to occupy one's attention except the fair, green, smiling landscape with

its fine streams and splendid trees.

I do not like this way of traveling. one is alone it is so "awfully" lonely, and when others are in the compartment, one is brought so disagreeably near them; one must either sit opposite, staring and stared at, or side by side, as one might say "cheek by jowl." If one happens to be in the middle, one has no access to the two windows, and at best one has little opportunity to change one's position. eigners dislike the American railway car because it is "so public." I consider it much more exclusive. In the latter one has one's own section where no other person can "molest or make afraid." yet one has the advantage of the space and light of a roomy car, with one's fellowtravelers at a proper distance and with no occasion to face them or to ride backward unless from choice.

I do not note quite the same caution in Germany that I observed in France regarding the safety of life. While the roads are well and solidly constructed, yet they usually run across the open country with very little, although somewhat,

more protection for man and beast than with us. There is usually a low hedge along the line on either side, but it could be easily overstepped by men or animals. Every wagon-road, however, is provided at every point of crossing a railroad, with strong gates on each side of the track, and a gateman—who is sometimes a woman—stands on duty as we dash by; while in the towns there is simply no getting upon the track without permission, the rails everywhere within town-limits being either between walls or elevated on massive masonry.

My journey this time was short and we soon entered the fine, roomy station of Duesseldorf.

This is a pretty town with wide streets and very spacious, ornamental avenues called Allées, which latter have magnificent trees in double rows down their centers. One of these Allées is especially fine. A broad canal faced up with solid mason-work and bordered by these beautiful trees, extends its length through the thoroughfare, which is double the width of the other boulevards. Graceful, decorative bridges span the waters, and light, ornamental railings insure safety; while frequent seats along under the trees provide delightful resting-places for the pedestrian.

There is a beautifully "rural" park lying almost in the center of the little city, where the grand old trees and bowery shrubbery, interspersed with frequent natural pools, and threaded by delightful paths all carefully ordered and kept, give all the charm of nature with the added adornments of art. Here, in a secluded dell and yet close to the busy street, standing upon a thick carpet of living green and embowered in overhanging branches and clustering vines, stands Duesseldorf's monument to her slain in

battle.

The creation is of pure white marble. Two or three broad, shallow steps lead up to a spacious, semi-circular court or platform of this material, encircled by a low railing of the same. Upon this foundation is placed the oblong base of the memorial, which is classic in conception. Rising from this base is a pedestal supporting the full-length figure in heroic proportions, of a dying warrior in half-recumbent position, while at his side the lion of Germany, pitying and powerful to avenge, holds beneath his mighty paw, the broken spear that has made the deadly wound. Upon the front of the pedestal are graven the following lines from a German poet:—

"Fame have our heroes enough, and triumphs and ever green laurels; Tears from poor mother-hearts wrung, builded this symbol of stone."

On the back is the inscription:

"Grateful Duesseldorf to Her Fallen Sons."

The snowy whiteness of the marble, the deep, restful green of the foliage, the quiet nook wherein the monument stands, the majestic simplicity yet marvelous effectiveness of design and execution, all combine to make the memor-

ial an object of most impressive beauty.

There are a number of interesting old edifices in Duesseldorf and many beautiful modern ones. The style of architecture is mainly on bload, severe lines, with decorations of an elevated type. Kunst Halle is one of the prominent new structures and was built to properly house and display the art treasures of Duesseldorf, which has a rather peculiar school of its own.

I had a somewhat odd experience while mak-

ing my way thither one morning. I had been to visit an ancient church and was inquiring my way along, when I met an old lady of whom I asked directions. I repeated my question two or three times as she informed me that she was a little deaf, when suddenly she grasped my meaning and ejaculated, "Ja, ja, ja! I am going there myself; come along with me."

I did so and found I had struck a living fount and endless torrent of information. The old lady walked, as she talked, very rapidly, and I could with difficulty keep pace with her, while the rattle of carts and wagons over the stone pavements made it almost impossible for me to understand her quick utterances in a, to me,

foreign tongue.

However, I learned that she was the "widow of an artist, the mother of an artist and the sister of an artist;" that she "had a complimentary membership-ticket to the exhibitions," but that I would "have to pay;" and then she went on and gave me a hasty yet comprehensive sketch of the beginning, progress and completion of the new gallery: the condition and contents of the old; the history of the removal of the collection, the later additions, and kindred topics too many to recall; while all I contributed to the interview was a look of interest, an occasional smile and an interjectory "so." "ja, ja." or "gewiss!", wherever they seemed best to fit in.

She conducted me safely to the building, piloted me in, led me around through the different rooms and gave me an account of every-

thing she deemed worthy of notice.

She, it appeared was, or else her brother, son or husband was, or had been, personally acquainted with nearly every contemporary artist of note, and really her knowledge, range and interest were amazing. She insisted on my "doing" everything thoroughly, and I certainly made a much more exhaustive survey of this collection than I had any idea of making when I set out. It struck me as quite amusing that a casual inquiry of a chance stranger in a by street of a foreign town, should open to me such a store of what might be termed "compulsory education." But I finally was allowed to bid the old lady farewell, whereupon I returned to my hotel whence I soon resumed my journey, setting out for Hanover.

On this stretch I made my first acquaintance with what the Germans call a "Day-tsoog," (spelled D. Zug,) which name I was quite at a loss to understand. I knew that "D." was "D.", and "Zug" was "train," but the combination suggested nothing to me, unless something akin to the "big, big D." of the Captain

of the Pinafore.

Later I was told that it was a contraction for *Durch-Zug*, and as that translates "through train," I concluded I had solved the puzzle. But soon after I learned that *Fern-Zug* was the term for what we understand by a through train, so I was nonplussed again.

Finally after a long time and much questioning, for the dictionaries were silent on the matter and most persons didn't know and few seemed to care, I met a friendly inn-keeper who

kindly made it all plain to me.

It seems that Fern-Zug is really the through train, that is, a train made up for travel without change between two distant points, the termini of the line; and though D. Zug is truly a contraction of Durch-Zug, yet that expression is itself a contraction for Durch-Gang-Zug or "corridor train," which gives a very different aspect to the meaning.

It was easy to understand why this train that I now entered should be called a corridor train. for a corridor, or passage, extends from one end of the car to the other, not through the center, however, but on one side and across the two ends. In some respects the cars are like ours in Amer-First; they are set up higher than the ordinary continental coach and are entered by means of two or three steps; but these are not at each end leading up to a platform as with us; instead they run along on each side like those on an open street-car, and the doors, of which there are four, open opposite each other, from the sides into the end passages. Second; the train is vestibuled, so one can pass, as in ours, from one end of the train to the other without exposure.

Into the side corridor the compartments open: eight or ten in all, perhaps, of both first and second class, in each carriage, or Wagen, as the Germans call it. There is very little difference in the two classes in Germany, in fact I could see none in point of comfort; the upholstering in the first class may be of finer material, and perhaps a little gilding or two or three small mirrors not larger than a dining-plate, may be "thrown in." where the second class has none; cannot speak with certainty sometimes there are none anywhere, and at others both classes will have them. In each compartment are six places, three opposing three, and divided by adjustable arms. The seats are roomy and easy, but the fine finish and skilled handiwork seen in our cars, are entirely lacking.

The corridor taking up one entire side of the carriage, there are but two places in each compartment next to windows, so the first two arrivals

are the lucky ones. If one comes after these, one has no chance to view the scenery except across one's neighbor's corporosity. The neighbor will probably entirely control the curtain and keep it drawn or not as he prefers, while the remaining occupants may be, at his pleasure, deprived of light or dazzled with too much. Then very likely some one of the six will be mortally afraid of the "publicity" of the corridor along which an occasional traveler or trainman may pass, and so insist on having the door into the same tightly closed, and there you are shut up in the stuffy little place with four or five other hot, dusty, irritated mortals.

But there are electric bells in each compartment and a small, meagerly equipped toilet-room in each car; also a buffet somewhere in the train where beverages may be procured, so the train is more American-like than the usual style here, though far less comfortable than our ordinary day-coaches. On these trains there are women employed, one or two to each carriage, who wear white badges upon their left arms, labeled Dienst-Frau. I hardly know what they do, unless it is to scrub and wash dishes, for they do not answer the bells; if you ring, a man appears.

Meals may be had en route, by telegraphing ahead through a porter who takes your order. The repast is brought into the compartment, and is sometimes odiously obvious to other occupants who, not being hungry themselves, do not enjoy seeing and smelling eatables at such close quarters. The food, however, is very good and not at all expensive to our United States ideas of train prices. Drinking-water must be ordered and paid for at so much a bottle, but it is a great convenience to be able to get it even this way, for on the ordinary train one must go

without, unless one carries it with one or can hail a station-porter during a halt and send him for a bottle, which he fetches without ice.

On this special "D. Zug," the seats were extra, though I have found them so but once since; about two marks, (nearly fifty cents) between Duesseldorf and Hanover, one hundred and seventy-eight miles. It was really a much appreciated privilege to rise occasionally and walk up and down the corridor. I was amused to note that the conductor and other trainsmen did not seem realize that they could go through it in announcing stations, but ran up and down on the platforms outside as before. Such a strange custom for the persons inside who are anxious to know, cannot hear, while those outside who can hear, know already. Perhaps though, the men are forbidden to pass through the train unless absolutely necessary. There are a great many "don'ts" and "mustn'ts" in Deutschland. But I should think the train men would be glad that they are not obliged to pass along the steps at the sides, clinging to the iron hand-rail while the train is in motion, which is the only way to go from one compartment to another in the ordinary train, rain or shine.

Not far from Duesseldorf is the ancient city of Duisberg, a manufacturing place and largely interested in coal traffic, but noteworthy as being the burial-place of Mercator, the geog-

rapher.

It struck me strangely to see a monument to him, for he had never seemed a real being to me; though I confess he has never occupied my thoughts to any great extent since my early childhood, when I used to ponder over the very odd maps that appeared on the first pages of my

primary "geography-book,"—as the English say,—and were labeled "Mercator's Projection." I recalled a little friend who once, on hearing a Mr. Spalding mentioned, exclaimed:

"Why! Is Spaldin' a man? I fawt 'e was

a glue!"

Likewise my youthful mind had never "fawt" of Mercator as "a man," but merely as a Pro-

jection.

At this place our train crosses the Ruhr and five miles farther on we come to Oberhausen which has the rare distinction in this old country, of being a "new place." It is of about twenty-five thousand inhabitants and has extensive ironworks.

The region roundabout is very level and not specially interesting, though the verdant fields and abundant water-courses have a pleasant look in the sunshine.

As we approach Dortmund, however, the face of the country changes and, to the left, breaks up into ranges of picturesque hills. Dortmund is ancient and venerable, as well as important and progressive. It is mentioned in history as early as 927; in 1887-8 it successively resisted a siege of nearly two years, by the Archbishop of Cologne and forty other princes.

The old walls have been leveled and fine promenades laid out along their foundations. It has numerous old churches and many "up-to-date" foundries, being the seat of the mining

authorities of Westphalia.

It was in this locality that the ancient, secret and terrible tribunal, the Vehmgericht, originated, which exerted such a fearful and powerful sway over the whole empire. Dortmund was the seat of its supreme court and here in the "Court-Yard under the Lindens" the Emperor

Sigismund himself was initiated in 1429. One of these lindens is still standing and must be considerably more then four hundred years old. The last meeting was convened here in 1803.

Distant ten miles is Hamm (suggestive name!) which is quite noted for its warm baths. It is not here, however, as would seem fit and proper, that is located the great depot of Westphalia hams and sausages so well known to fame, but in the little village of Goetersloh, thirty-three miles on, across the Lippe and the Ems.

Here also are the head-quarters of the far renowned *Pumpernickel*, a dark-brown bread or cake considered very nutritious. It is made of unsifted rye flour, sometimes iced, and is dear to the German palate but not to mine.

The country grows more hilly and is interspersed with many busy and flourishing towns rich in historic interest and containing innumerable fine relics of "ye olden tyme," in the way of cathedral, castle, wood-carving painting and stained glass.

Bielefeld is the center of the Westphalian linen trade. Herford possesses many cotton and flax mills. At Enger, a small town five miles aside from the railway, was the seat of that stubborn opponent of Charlemagne, namely the Saxon duke, Wittekind, who figures so extensively in the semi-historic, semi-traditional lore of Germany. His bones are still preserved in the abbey church here, which was built in the twelfth century.

At Lemgo, a quaint and handsome place of seven thousand inhabitants, is an extensive factory of meerschaum pipes.

About three miles from Detmold, (where Freiligrath was born,) rises, in the valley of the Wer-

ra, the Grotenburg, eleven hundred and sixty feet above the the sea, one of the highest points of the Teutoburgian forest. Upon its summit, plainly visible for miles around, the celebrated Hermann's Denknal, or Monument of Arminius, Upon an arched substructure one rears itself. hundred feet in height, stands the colossal figure of the prince, fifty-six feet high, with raised sword the point of which is thirty feet above the helmet. This is the work of Ernst von Baudel, who devoted most of his life to its execution. The cost of the monument, which is of copper and iron, was about two hundred and seventy thousand marks, equivalent at the present rate of exchange to about sixty-six thousand dollars. An admirable prospect is visible from the gallery of this monument.

In ascending the hill some very ancient German fortifications known as the Kleine Hoenenring are passed. Going on to Horn and Paderborn by Diligence, one comes upon the Externsteine, an odd group of five rocks over one hundred feet high, protruding from the earth like gigantic

teeth.

In one of these rocks is a grotto that leads to a cave. According to an inscription dated 1195, in the grotto, it was fitted up by Bishop Henry of Paderborn, in imitation of the Holy Sepulcher. Some very curious reliefs hewn from the rock, represent a Descent from the Cross, in two sections. In the upper part colossal figures show the removal of the body by Joseph of Arimethea; above hovers God the Father carrying a banner and a little child.

The lower portion shows Adam and Eve entwined by a serpent and waiting for redemption.

At Oeynhausen are warm saline springs considered especially efficacious in paralysis.

Now we cross the Weser and presently notice to the left, on the Wittekindsburg eight hundred and twenty feet above sea-level, a monument recently erected to Emperor William I. Next comes Minden, an ancient cathedral town, the fortifications of which were leveled in 1842, and which contains many handsome modern edifices.

Still we go on and on, passing many a relic of bygone eras in *château* or tower or crumbling wall and finally, after speeding some time over another long, level and fertile stretch, we see the winding, yellow waters of the Leine and roll into the handsome and imposing station of the flourishing city of Hanover.

# CHAPTER XV.

Hanover has about two hundred thousand inhabitants and is situated in a fertile, somewhat rolling plain, well watered, principally by the navigable river Leine, and its tributary, the Ihme. I was much pleased with the clean, airy and generally ornamental appearance of the place and remained here several weeks.

I was most fortunate in my location, having been referred to a family of ex-governesses, four maiden ladies of middle age, who, in addition to being excellent hostesses, were also refined and cultivated ladies, not only educated, but exceedingly skilled in music, drawing, paint-

ing, Latin and modern languages.

The eldest was a "plump and pleasing person," and a most painstaking and indefatigable housekeeper, though highly accomplished as

well.

The second sister had just returned from "finishing" the daughter of the deposed King of Hanover, having been a member of this royal household many years, traveling and residing with her patrons in almost every part of Europe. Her reminiscences of the familiar daily "walk and conversation" of the august and titled persons with whom she had come into contact, were most interesting, including personal recollections of the Queen of England, the Emperors of Germany and Russia, and nearly all of their numerous distinguished connection, the House of Hanover being, as we know, the source of the present English line.

The third sister was also a traveler, having spent in discharge of her duties, two years in America and some time in France, Switzerland and Holland. In France she had charge of the children of our own ex-vice-president Morton.

Neither was the fourth, whom we used to call "the little one," a "stay at home." She had spent eighteen years in England and was

familiar with France and Italy.

Naturally their information and experience were extensive and the ladies were really almost walking encyclopedias. But this very fund of knowledge and the having been for so many continuous years in positions of authority over pupils to whom the governess's dictum on all points was final and decisive, had given them each somewhat of an arbitrary tendency, causing them sometimes to forget that the transitory members of their household were not of undisciplined minds to which the governess's opinion or decision must be conclusive and without

appeal.

This trait was especially noticeable in "the little one," and many were the good-natured tilts engaged in between herself and the various nationalities around the "festal board." Her information was usually extremely correct but she could with difficulty admit any point of view other than her own, of a subject, and rarely knew "when she was beaten," for like "man convinced against his will," she would be "of the same opinion still." This, of course, was her privilege and was of no very great consequence, though forcibly illustrating the conservative tendency of old-world education; and sometimes, even when we were quite willing to accept her conclusions, she had a way of stating them with such a superior air, as if

she had settled the question forever, that it was a trifle irritating. The little lady could not yield readily to the idea that perhaps some of these "dreadful Americans," being fully her own age and often with wider experience, might possibly be able to judge fairly well as to the elegance and propriety in diction and pronunciation of their native tongue; like many other foreigners, she had judged a whole nation by the worst specimens that she had seen, failing to reflect that if we of America should do the same by our immigrants from their shores, we should have indeed little conception of the learning and culture of the old world.

One special "passage-at arms" interested us all and, as America proved itself well supported by standard authorities, it may not be out of place to relate it here. The word "menace" was used by an American, with the accent on

the first syllable as customary.

"Oh!" said the "little one," "You mean

'men-ace,' I presume."

"Do you find it so?" inquired the American who was, in fact, from the United States; "I have never known of its being pronounced other than men-ace, though of course there may be more than one pronunciation." This, by the way, is almost unheard of in correct German pronunciation, so it is hard for a German to realize that it may be different in Erglish.

The possibility of two pronunciations, however, the little Fraulein would not admit; menace it was and men-ace it must be uncondi-

tionally.

"But what is your authority?" some one

asked.

"I lived in England eighteen years," replied the little governess with dignity, "and I always heard it so."

"But you must be aware," remarked another, "how inattentive many persons, even of culture and position, are to points in pronunciation, and I should not think that decisive."

"Well," she returned somewhat warmly, "I should think the English ought to know how to

speak their own language."

"Certainly they ought;" assented the American, "but whether each individual does, is a question, as it is in any nation. But as I feel sure you did not hear all the English people speak and as English is also my own language, I am confident in assuming that I am not in error; though, as I said, it is possible it may also be correct to say men-ace, so I suggest we leave it to any undeniable authority."

"I know I am right;" she replied; "of course, I do not know what you Americans call it, for really,"-with a superior air,-"the two

(!) languages are quite different."

"What do you say, Mrs. A.?" inquired the American turning to an English lady at the table. She was a relative of Baroness Burdett-Coutts, by the way, and the daughter of a baronet, so should be a representative of a fairly cultured class.

"Oh! don't consider me authority," she replied, "I seldom look up words; but I always

call it as you do, men-ace."

This was rather a "staggerer" for the little governess, but rallying she said: "Webster gives men-ace."

"Well, I never have noticed it," said the American, "though I know he gives men-ace,

but where is your Webster? Let's look."

So Webster was brought and consulted but, alas for the "little one," there it stood menace, as the American had said, and nothing else.

But the small one was not yet vanquished.

"Oh, well!" she returned, "of course, he's an American; he isn't a proper judge of pronunciation."

Notwithstanding this rather rude thrust, the representative of America preserved an equable front and replied that he could not recognize any such distinction, that he considered good English was also good American, and viceversa: and that unless indisputable reference to the contrary was produced, he could see no reason for changing his pronunciation.

"Well," said Mrs. A., "I have an English standard dictionary in my room, let us look at

that.''

It was soon brought, and the word found; here also but one pronunciation was given, and that was as before, *men*-ace.

The "little one" saw it but said nothing, though we felt from the expression of her face, that it would always be men-ace with her, "though the heavens should fall." But, in spite of this "fixidity" of idea, she was a most inter-

esting and engaging little woman.

Afterward when any question of this sort arose, Mrs. A's standard English dictionary compiled by an Englishman and published by an Englishman in England, was consulted and found to agree with the best American usage always. For instance; such words as "incomparable," "Tuesday," "jewel," "immediately," "invalid," and the like, which are so often mispronounced with us as well as among the English, are given exactly the same in both English and American lexicons; so that, in most cases, the peculiar "chewing" of their words by the English, is as indefensible by their own authorities, as the flat, strongly nasal intonation

of many Americans, is unsupported by our standards, though all these defects are wide-spread on the respective sides of the water. Of course, that the English speak well down in their throats while we use more head-tones, may be probably accounted for by difference in climate; and equally of course, there are ignorant and careless Americans and English in all parts of the world. Later, on visiting England, I was

able to verify these observations.

I was really quite elated to find our usages so well authorized, for indeed "American English" is quite generally regarded abroad, something as the barbaric utterances of a Fiji Islander might be in the world at large; it being taken for granted that any variation in an American, from an accent or diction familiar to a foreigner, must be, of necesssity, an exhibition of deficient culture, and the former is calmly put in the wrong without appeal and without a suspicion on the latter's part, that the "dreadful American" may possibly have had access to quite as many pure "wells of English undefiled" and have quaffed therefrom with quite as much judgment as the critics themselves; and though I must sadly own that many of us have room for great improvement in speaking, I will not grant that we have more than the average Englishman.

There are three words, however, "mamma," "papa," and "were," which I am forced to admit are almost universally mispronounced even by cultured Americans, though I am glad to say that these did not happen to be instanced in any of our little lingual skirmishes.

Foreigners declare that we say "mommer," "popper," and "wur," and alas! I cannot deny that many of us do, and though I do not know

but these are quite as correct as our English friends' "mammaw," "papaw," and "wear," yet I could wish a little more attention might be given these words by some of us.

### CHAPTER XVI.

The handsome and prosperous city of Hanover, now the capital of the Prussian province of this name, possesses unusual advantages for the student desiring to acquire the best German accent, while its friendly, hospitable citizens make the sojourn of a stranger in the midst of them, very comfortable and delightful.

It was formerly the capital of the kingdom of Hanover, but in 1866 the Prussian William made war upon all neighboring small kingdoms that would not vow fealty to him, and though the Hanoverians resisted nobly, they were comparatively few in forces and were vanquished, while

their king was banished.

The older generation can not forget the sufferings and indignities entailed on their royal family, and, though the province is Prussian by name, this portion is loyal at heart to the deposed line; but such sympathizers have to be extremely careful about expressing themselves, for the stringent and powerful police system is ready to make an example of any reported disloyalty.

The royal palace of Hanover from which the unhappy reigning family was driven, now stands vacant though kept up in good order for the occasional visits of Emperor William II. Many of its choicest treasures have been taken to Berlin but the beautiful floors are undisturbed and are said to be the finest in Europe. They are of rare woods and inlaid in the most elaborate and

intricate fashion.

From another quarter of the city, a magnificent avenue of lime, or linden trees, one and one quarter miles long and one hundred and twenty feet wide, leads out to charming *Schloss* Herrenhausen, which was the favorite residence

of Georges I., II., and V.

This estate is the private property of the deposed king; for this reason, I understand, escaping confiscation, though he is never allowed to reside or, in fact, to come here at all. For the benefit of his beloved Hanoverians, however, he keeps the grounds open to the public, who are, by the payment of a small fee to the custodian, also admitted inside the palace, the palmhouse and the mausoleum.

The garden comprises one hundred and twenty acres and is laid out in old French style with clipped shrubs, antique statues, allegorical fountains and an open air theater; the waters of the great fountain rise to the unusual height of two hundred and twenty-two feet; I was told here that this fountain plays higher than any in Europe, but am unable myself either to deny or confirm the statement. A colossal sitting figure of the Electress Sophia stands on the spot where she expired of heart disease in 1714.

The mausoleum, containing monuments to King Ernst August and Queen Frederika by Rauch, is thought by many to equal the famous one at

Charlottenburg.

The royal stables have recently been removed from Hanover. In them are kept the famous Hanoverian, or "Isabella," horses. We have all heard of the Queen Isabella who vowed never to change her linen until certain troops should be victorious, and as a consequence was obliged to wear it until it assumed a decidedly saffron-like hue. This tint, however objection-

able in linen, is rather handsome in horses, and is the color of the favored equines who are the bearers of the royal line; no others are allowed to use them; the animals, with their deep canary tint and white manes and tails, are beautiful creatures.

The imposing Welfenschloss, or Palace of the Guelphs, stands in the avenue of limes. The edifice is of Romanesque style, having five towers; since 1878 it has been used as a Polytechnic School. A colossal figure of the Saxon Horse stands in the great square in front of the palace.

Hanover has a fine system of electric trams moved by the underground system; that is, the force is conducted beneath the surface. I never realized before what a desirable thing it might be, to be rid of the trolley poles and lines. There are also many horse-cars and funny little omnibuses in which latter one may ride about a mile and a half for about a cent and a quarter.

According to Bædeker, the "guide, philosopher and friend" of the general tourist, the central railway station of Hanover, is one of "the most imposing erections of its kind in Germany." It faces the *Ernst August Platz* and is embellished by beautiful surroundings of fountains, foliage and flowers. Immediately in front rises a huge statue on horseback, of Ernst August, "The Father of His People," done in bronze. The rails themselves, as in so many German cities, are elevated upon a lofty viaduct under which are arches through which passes the traffic of the town.

There is a remarkably fine theater building in Hanover, where plays and operas of a superior grade are brought out. It is a very large structure, of noble proportions, of sufficient height only to accord well with its breadth, two stories,

I believe; which reminds me of a modern police regulation here and, I think, generally throughout Germany, that no building shall be erected higher than four stories. Across the principal façade stretches a handsome portico under which is a broad carriage approach. Nearly every day a fine band discourses the best of music for an hour or two from this portico. Twelve statues of celebrated composers adorn the balcony above. The edifice, like the railway station stands in its own grounds, which are very handsome, ornamented with statues, fountains and flowering shrubs.

Hanover is well supplied with museums. The most interesting one to me, though not the largest nor the finest, is the "Leibnitz House," an ancient structure with immense pointed roof in which are four of the eight stories of the edifice. It was built in 1652, long before the height of buildings was regulated by law.

Here are relics back to the thirteenth century, while the chair, desk and other personal effects of the celebrated philosopher, are preserved with

much care.

The Kestner Museum, standing in lovely grounds, was presented to the town by Herr Hermann Kestner, grandson of Goethe's "Lotta."

Nicolai Chapel, some parts of which date back to the twelfth century, is the oldest church in Hanover and stands in a quiet greenery and surrounded by ancient tombs, albeit in one of the busiest portions of the town. It is now used by the English colony as a place of worship.

Hanover also has its fine war monument to the fallen heroes of the vicinity. It is of Swedish granite and represents in colossal figures, a Germania crowned by two genii, and is adorned with several reliefs of trophies, while in front is

a mourning figure of Hanover with two lions. It stands in a lovely parterre which in the season is a mass of brilliant bloom, while in the immediate background sway and bend the leafy branches of tall forest trees.

These trees are on the southern boundary of the *Eilenriede*, a beautiful wood extending outward from this point, and which was bequeathed to the city by two maiden sisters, with the condition that the area of the gift should never be lessened: so, as the town spreads out, whenever a part of the bequest is sold for building lots, an equally large portion must be purchased on the other side and thrown into the forest. Its name is a combination of the donors, Eile and Riede, and is a constant reminder to Hanover, of the generous old maids to whom the city owes so much.

#### CHAPTER XVII.

There are numerous relics of a bygone era in Hanover, especially in the "Old Town," as a certain part is called. Narrow, crooked, old streets and quaint, antique houses delight the eye of the antiquarian and give the present generation an idea of how former ones used to live.

There are some queer old graveyards too, in Hanover. In one is the tomb of a "giant," who is depicted in standing posture, full size, very tall, upon his tombstone. Opposite him is a similar tall stone whereon is graven the full length figure of a young lady popularly known

as "the giant's wife."

The versatile little German governess kindly went with us to this place to act as guide. Never having been here since her childhood, she was anxious to visit it again. As an example of how tradition may be made, I will relate that on our way thither "the little one" told us that the old nurse who had charge of this family of governesses when it was merely a family of little girls, used to take them to this grave and tell them how the lady buried there had died from tight lacing, thus impressing on their youthful minds the evils of that pernicious practice. The old nurse could not read, therefore her stock of information was a mingled web of fancy and To her, I believe, was also attributable the supposition that the deceased young woman was the giant's wife, and as her stone was as tall as his, she, of course was a giantess.

But we Americans are usually of rather an in-

vestigating turn of mind and not specially prone to accept without question statements leaning toward the marvelous; and thus our party on arrival upon the scene, began to view the surroundings with a "cricket's eye." We were first surprised to note that the "giant's wife," instead of reposing by the side of her husband, was laid directly opposite him on the other side of the wide path that led through the cemetery. The two tall stones stood face to face about ten feet apart. Bending down, we immediately began to spell out the worn and nearly indistinguishable, old German text upon the respective tombs. The giant's record was all straight enough; name, age, dates of birth and death given; but when we turned to the stone of the lady, we met with several incongruities. First, the giant was a hundred years older than his "wife," second, she was not a giantess at all, but a slim, little girl represented as standing. life-size, on a sort of dais or platform, which necessitated the height of her tombstone; third. she was but fifteen when she died and had never been married; and fourth, there was not the slightest allusion to any circumstance that might be construed into any supposition that she had died of tight-lacing.

The little governess was amazed. She said she had never thought of doubting the statements of her old nurse and so had continued to believe and to narrate to others the impressive story handed down by that venerable dame, who evidently possessed a vivid imagination and a fine faculty for "pointing a moral and adorning a tale."

In another old churchyard is a rather curious sight. A heavy granite tomb, seemingly as solidly built as possible, was erected many years ago in what is termed "perpetuity," that is, a certain sum was paid to secure a guarantee that the grave should never be opened or disturbed to make room for others, as is often done here.

But strange to say, a little seed fell into some tiny crevice of the stone structure, and from that seed has sprung a large and vigorous tree, that expanding, has thrust aside the mighty blocks of ponderous granite with resistless force, so that the tomb that was to have been sealed forever, has been opened by the hand of nature itself. Such an incident in the romance and legend-loving land of Germany, could not pass unnoted, and many are the mysterious and miraculous tales woven about this "opened grave."

In the same churchyard may be found the grave of Charlotte Kestner, "Goethe's Lotta," lying by the side of her husband and other rela-

tives.

We went also to visit the Jews' burial-place, now closed, but dating back long ago to the time when no Jew was permitted to reside within the gates of Hanover. They were obliged to dwell outside, coming in to do business but going out at sunset. In that almost barbarous era, they were, of course, exposed to raids and robberies without redress, with ro protection anywhere. Finally the monarch of that day had pressing need of a large sum of money. This was raised for him by the Jews without compensation, on condition that they might be allowed a place within the walls to burytheir dead. It was granted and to this spot we now went.

Somber and grim enough it seemed with its now never opened gates, its rank, neglected vegetation and its queer, high tombs. The little governess said that the Jews were buried standing, but whether this is a fact or merely another instance of the old nurse's lively imagination, I am unprepared to say. I may add in this connection, that at the present day there are no more valued and honored citizens in Hanover, than certain

of the once despised Jewish race.

It was in Hanover that I first encountered the unique, massive stoves of Germany. There is one of more or less size in each apartment of this pension. They are each mounted on a large base, generally some kind of stone but sometimes solid wood heavily zincked. The most imposing one is in the drawing-room, being about eight feet high. It is composed of white tiles built up into the form of a little temple and ornamented over the front door with a large medallion in pale gray, representing a child and a They tell a story in the house with much relish, of an unsophisticated American lady who, on calling to engage rooms, seemed much fascinated by this structure, and finally inquired in a melancholy tone befitting the painful reference:

"May I ask whose monument that is?"

It really is more suggestive of an obituary memorial than a heating-apparatus. Some of them are works of art in beautiful porcelain, but most of them are built of colored tiles heavily glazed. In many of the museums and old palaces, one finds these stoves in very fanciful styles representing birds, lions, bears, and other figures; I recall one in particular in the palace of Sans Souci at Potsdam, in Frederick the Great's favorite promenade gallery, that was in the form of a large eagle in a surprisingly convoluted attitude.

Another variety of stoves of a later era is made of iron cast in various forms; these are interesting though not so unique as the monumental tile structures of earlier generations. There is one standing in my present apartment, modeled apparently after twin towers. The two are connected at the base by a fire-box of good size, having a cathedral-like door. The towers rise to a height of seven or eight feet and at intervals are connected by what might be called bridges going across from one to the other; in each of these is a kettle-hole with a lid. tigation shows that all this superstructure is hollow and I suppose it is calculated to provide for an extensive circulation of hot air within. and consequent radiation from the hot metal into the room. It is very ornamental and quite imposing in its sable majesty. But these fanciful styles, I believe, are entirely out of date now, as even in slow-going old Germany, are gradually coming into use the improved and scientific methods of heating appertaining to the present day.

As a matter of course the semi-annual "stovemoving" that is the horror of the rural householder in our country, is not a feature in German homes. If any change in stove matters becomes essential, a mason must be summoned and the entire structure pulled down and rebuilt, but this happens so seldom that the tempers of families are not often unduly strained in

this respect.

I think I have omitted to mention how greatly travelers are annoyed abroad by the continual receipt of countless cards, circulars and letters of business firms, on many of which postage is due, which I, for my part, at first innocently paid, not knowing then that I could refuse to accept the documents. I attributed this inundation so far as I was concerned, to the fact that I had in France often put up at large hotels

from whence, doubtless, arrivals were reported to the papers. But coming into Germany, I was possessed of private addresses and in many places avoided the hotels altogether, so I could not account for still being deluged as before. On expressing my wonder one day to my hostess, I was informed that all pension keepers were obliged by law to send lists of the arrivals and departures of their guests to the police for publication, so that we were all "before the

public," whether we pleased or not.

It is really quite surprising to an American to find how far the details of police interference extend. Though one is not, on the moment of one's arrival in Germany, seized, as in France, figuratively by the throat and commanded to yield up, at once, one's name, age, condition, intentions and so forth, yet one must by the end of a week, supply all these details to the police; and the proprietor of any place of public, nay, even also of private entertainment, must see that this is done, under penalty of fine for negligence. The purposed length of stay and intended further destination of each guest must also be reported.

Another police regulation—a very sensible one but astonishing to the American,—is that no person may take a music lesson or practice with open windows, on any instrument, under penalty

of fine.

Neither can one have any festivities, lasting beyond ten p. m., even of the simplest nature, without first gaining permission of the authorities. Even in the seclusion of one's own drawing-room and surrounded by one's family in innocent merry-making, is one liable to be interrupted after that hour by the sudden appearance of a uniformed official with "orders to quit."

Nor can any person in planning a house place windows so that they overlook a neighbor's premises without that neighbor's express permission and dictation as to where and how he

shall be surveyed.

Many other formalities very surprising to us who dwell in "the land of the free and the home of the brave," might be cited but these few give some idea of what it is to live under a paternal government. I used sometimes in America to think, when groaning under exorbitant transportation charges, that it would be a good thing if the government would take the railways in charge, like the postal service, and insure a uniform, cheap rate; but after knowing something of the railways here, which are in governmental hands, I have changed my mind. True, the rates are fixed and very moderate, but oh! the struggle it is to get any information out of any official. If you know all about a projected trip, he will deign to sell you a ticket for any place, but as to giving you any advice or assistance in regard to connections, facilities, or desirable routes, he has no idea or inclination. What does it matter to him? He has his salary anyway whether the road is well-patronized or not, and there is no rival line to seduce passengers by more affable and obliging treatment. In Germany, France, England and, in fact, nearly all foreign countries, such things as gratuitous time-cards, folders, and general railway literature are almost unknown.

Here again the Tourist Agencies are serviceable, as a traveler can get any desired information at their offices without charge.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

Leaving Hanover, I started on what the Germans call a Rund-Reise, this name being applied to certain trips at reduced rates on which one takes no luggage except what can be carried by hand. For the benefit of the "lone woman," I will explain that to decide on my route I went to an office, not of an "Agency," but of a private individual whose advertisement I had seen, who laid out for me a desirable route giving me a written program with all details including estimated expenses of the trip, for all of which I paid him about sixty cents. Our business was transacted in German, but if the "lone one" does not know the language, she would better take with her an interpreter to such a place, as she would not wish to misunderstand any of the items.

My first stoppage was at the ancient and most interesting town of Hildersheim on the borders of the Hartz mountains, a place that has retained many mediæval features. At a very early period, even as far back as the tenth century, this town attained great importance as a cradle of art, not only mediæval but Romanesque, and according to authorities, "one of the most attractive and characteristic features consists of its timber architecture in the German Renaissance style. The richly decorated façades executed by wood-carvers and sculptors, bear abundant testimony of the taste, the humor and the enterprise of the period."

The population is about thirty thousand and

the place is evidently quite a center of business activity. I immediately went out for a walk, following a wide, handsome street which soon led into a crooked, old-fashioned thoroughfare where, on either hand, might be seen examples of the ornamental and substantial styles of the builders of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

It is difficult to describe these edifices; they are so totally unlike anything erected nowadays that a historical interest is added to the esthetic, throwing a "glamour of the past over the realities of the present."

Some one has said that "a walk through the streets of a North German town is indeed a feast of varied and permanent enjoyment for the traveler of refined taste in art." I should not make even that limitation, but declare that no one with eyes to see, could fail to be moved to admiration and to wonder.

Pursuing my way, I reached a fine mediæval square called the Altstaedter Markt, which may be interpreted literally, "Old-Town Market," though there is nothing about it now suggestive of any modern market-place. It is surrounded by marvelous, antique structures. Language fails to convey an idea of their quaint and elaborate beauty, and even photographs and engravings are inadequate, as so much of the details, which are worked out in the finest fashion, is there lost.

The Knockenhauer Amthaus is said to be the finest timber building in Germany. It was constructed in 1529 and is described in the guidebooks as a "veritable gem of timber architecture." Above the five stories of the building proper, rises the lofty gabled roof, itself containing several stories. After the quaint fashion

of the time each succeeding story projects some one or two feet beyond the one beneath. To quote from a popular author, "the façade is covered with figures and other ornamentation in which painting and wood-carving vie with each other." Scarcely a square inch of surface is left unadorned by conceits cunningly carved in the wood, both in high and low relief; such as garlands, leaves, birds, beasts, human beings, mottoes and so forth, showing an astonishing liveliness of fancy as well as an exquisite skill in execution.

These are alternated with panels and friezes of paintings having a smoothness of finish sug-

gesting enamel.

The figures are traced with a great deal of humor, while texts in Old-German script accompanying, vary from "grave to gay, from lively to severe." They are usually in the pithy couplet to which I have referred before. One of these little paintings represents a jolly-looking burgher of comfortable proportions, seated at a well-spread table upon which a huge joint and various flagons of strong waters are extremely prominent. Traced above this is the suggestive legend:

"And yet our fathers were no fools!"

Still another shows a monarch in rich robes and surrounded by all the luxuries of the time, with a great heap of ready coin spread out before him on a table. Just behind, however, stands the skeleton figure of Death about to grasp his victim. Encircling this is a motto-something to this effect:

"Not even gold Can loose Death's hold!"

A detailed description of the countless crna-

ments and conceptions wrought out upon this structure, is necessarily impossible here, even were my stock of words sufficient for the subject. As one stands below and gazes upward on to the gradually projecting stories, where the increased height of each succeeding one is partially counteracted by its shorter lateral distance from the beholder, one vi-ws such a wealth of decoration and curious handiwork that one involuntarily wonders how long those people lived who had time thus to elaborate every inch of the outer surfaces of their buildings.

But this is only one of the astonishingly quaint, beautiful and ancient edifices in this square. The Wedekind Haus dating from 1598, is also most elaborately carved and painted. The descendants of the Wedekind family still occupy the building, dealing on the lower floor in colonial supplies, a business probably handed down from father to son—or daughter,—through all the generations since this old house was new.

Numerous others of unusual interest and charm might be mentioned, but pages indeed

would be required for a full catalogue.

One very queer, old place in a side street, is called the House of the Emperors on account of having a row of Roman Emperors carved all

along the sides.

Numerous and beautiful also are the churches of Hildesheim and the old cathedral with its wondrous bronze doors and antique candelabrum. These and other marvelous specimens of work in this metal were executed under Bishop Bernward between the years 995 and 1032. The doors date from 1015 and are adorned with sixteen curious and intricate reliefs representing the Fall and the Redemption.

The large candelabrum is unique and a model

of its era; I saw copies of it afterward in several museums in different sections.

Indeed in the time of Bernward and his immediate successors down to 1154, Hildesheim became one of the most important seats of Romanesque art in Germany. The cathedral, which was built in 1055-61 on the site of an earlier church dating from 872, is of this style, but was much changed and debased by alterations of an unsymmetrical character in the eighteenth century.

St. Michaels is called one of the finest Romanesque churches in Germany. It has a lovely location upon a beautiful hill overlooking the river Innerste, and surrounded by noble trees. From here a promenade extends along the "Ramparts," by which name is known a succession of fine, elevated parks occupying the place of the former veritable ramparts, and commanding a charming view.

Tooping wrew.

Tearing myself away from this peculiarly interesting spot, I took train for Goslar, a little farther on into the fastnesses of the Hartz.

The region grows hillier and more wooded as we wind along to the foot of the Rammelsberg where is situated the quaint town which is our destination. The Rammelsberg is two thousand and forty feet above sea-level and has yielded varying quantities yearly of at least eight different minerals, a surprising variety to be found in so limited an area. It is honey-combed with shafts and galleries in every direction.

To the west of Goslar rises the Steinberg, not so lofty as the Rammelsberg but very picturesque.

The ancient town itself lying on the river Gose, is, if possible, still more charming than Hildesheim; being only about one third as large, it is more rural and the streets are diversified by fre-

quent gardens and arbors rich in foliage and flowers.

As I left the train, a very sociably disposed Dienstmann, or porter, approached and, offering his services, threw my bag over his shoulder with the remark that it would much pleasanter to walk than to ride, if the "gracious lady" felt so inclined. Nothing loath, I agreed and we proceeded to thread the old-time pathways that have echoed for so many centuries to the tread of hurrying and of halting feet. My guide was exceedingly painstaking in pointing out various noteworthy and curious objects on our route, giving a brief history of each, with many original comments.

Near the station is an immense round tower, almost a ruin, though signs of habitation were evident, and sounds of hilarity issuing forth fell upon the ear. It seems that this is a part of the ancient town-fortifications, but is now used as a hotel, having an elegant, modern interior

little according with its antique outside.

My Dienstmann piloted me to a funny little inn where I received a cordial reception; after paying requisite attention to the demands of a somewhat vigorous appetite, I retired to my room which proved to be one of the quaintest and cleanest of chambers, with shining blue floors, low, dazzlingly white walls, and heavy beams and rafters of dark, polished wood, testifying to centuries of support and shelter. There was a concert going on in the coffee-room below, and indeed all night long the sound of musical instruments and of voices uplifted in melody, floated through the air, mingling with my dreams.

There are many remaining evidences in Goslar, of its old and honorable history. Here again

one sees the queer, old buildings and the wonderful workmanship before described, but it is a sleepy little place and quietly enough it lay among its cool shadows, as I walked abroad next morning to gaze further upon its beauties.

The people are cordial and friendly, as generally throughout Germany. They rarely pass one without courteous salutation, and even little children nod and smile and cry, "Guten Tag." It is a pretty custom and makes a stranger feel very much at home.

This fashion of salutation is very different in France and Germany than at home in America,

or in England either, for that matter.

While it is carried much further in Germany than in France, one is always expected to exchange bows there with whomever one may meet in the hall, lift or drawing-room of one's abode, unless indeed there is a crowd of strangers or one is in a very large establishment, like the mammoth hotels; and even in these, one is expected to bow to his companions at table, and to bid his attendant "good morning," and "good night," with great punctiliousness and to use much formality in making requests or thanking one for services. The French servant or tradesperson is addressed as Monsieur, Madame or Ma'm'selle, as the case may require, and he or she is equally courteous in response, always addressing a superior in position, in the third This latter form, though person. somewhat in Germany, is not so universal as in France; but in Germany a person would be considered hopelessly ill-bred who, no matter how large the table, should take or leave his seat without catching the eye of the hostess, (who always presides,) and making a profound bo v as he ejaculates "Gesegnete Mahlzeit," which is a German equivalent for "Good Appetite!" New arrivals, of course, do not always know of this usage, and the situation is cometimes a little embarrassing. I presume we all remember Mark Twain's comical setting forth of this custom as he encountered it. Even in traveling, it is usual for anyone entering or leaving a railway-carriage, to acknowledge the presence of others by a courteous bow.

The French and Germans too, saldom, if ever, fail to formally present strangers to each other, and I found the fashion of hand-shaking, which I had supposed distinctly American, was really

particularly German.

Just across from my hotel, stands Goslar's Rath-Haus, or Town Hall, simple but quaint, dating from the fifteenth century. Among the many curosities, old books, paintings, charters and so forth, may be specially mentioned one of a widely different nature, a Beisskatze, (Biting-Cat!) a kind of cage in which shrews used to be imprisoned.

Upon an eminence on the outskirts of the town rises a palace, the Kaiserhaus, said to be the oldest secular edifice in Germany. Its location is remarkably fine and the magnificent old building, which was most judiciously restored in 1878, looks down in serene dignity upon the

little world at its feet.

Within, the Imperial Hall is fifty six yards long, seventeen wide and thirty-five feet high. One side is almost entirely of glass, so many and immense are the windows. Opposite the central one, is the ancient Imperial Throne which stood in the cathedral until 1820, and then came into the possession of Prince Charles of Prussia. In the chapel adjoining, is the painted tomb of Henry III., containing his heart, preserved at Hanover until 1884.

Somewhat distant from this castle are some venerable ruins that testify to the ancient grandeur of Goslar, around which are entwined many legends. Heine and other poets have sung many a sweet song inspired by the beauty and romance of this vicinity.

Not very far from these ruins stands the North Portal, all that is left of a once famous cathedral founded in 1039. This portal is now used as a place of worship by itself, and is indeed antique and quaint. (I know that adjective is overworked, but what is a poor scribe to do in the limitations of the English language?) A richly sculptured column stands at the entrance, surmounted by a Gorgon's head, reminiscence, it is said, of the old-time use of such heads to ward off evil influences.

In the gable over the entrance, are odd-looking colored figures of the Emperor Konrad, his wife Gesela and Saints Mathew, Simon and Jude. What living, breathing realities these old saints and martyrs seemed to the people of the earlier centuries.

Inside the Portal are several interesting relics of the ancient cathedral, among which may be noted an oblong box of brass plates, borne by four crouching figures and containing numerous circular holes. It is popularly called "Kodi's Altar," from the supposition that it was formerly a part of the shrine of that idol, but no one really knows for what it was originally designed.

That the ancient genius and skill in woodcarving are not yet extinct in this region, is proved by the existence of a most marvelous clock which is on exhibition here in the home of its maker. To visit it, I wandered down a country-like lane bordered on each side by sweetsmelling gardens and picturesque homes, until I came to a little cottage charmingly set within a bower of bloom.

Following the direction indicated by a painted hand, I entered this enchanting spot and proceeded beneath the vine-wreathed lattice-work to the open door of the dwelling. Here were gathered some half a dozen sight-seers, like myself desirious of inspecting the wonderful time-piece, though none of them from across the sea.

The maker and owner soon appeared and showed us all the curiosities of his master-piece. It was in the form of a temple and is most elabdetail, being all hand-work orate in carved with the utmost delicacy from woods of varving colors and hardness, some which were the product of America. At the stroke of the hour, music is heard, sentinels at various points salute, soldiers in the center surrounding a figure of Christ on the cross, manipulate their arms and implements, while one lifts his spear and pierces the side of the crucified Above, a door opens and the Twelve Apostles appear one by one, and pass before a figure of the risen Lord, each bowing his head as he comes opposite to receive the benediction of the Savior, who extends his hands in blessing.

Numerous other features, such as details for showing the seasons, the times of heavenly bodies, days of the week and month, the current year, the presenting of a birthday card at a given date and so forth, all displaying a surprising store of skill and patience in design and

execution, are to be noticed.

The structure stands about eight feet high and was intended as a present to the King of Hanover, being nearly completed when the troublous times of 1866 arose, which ended in his banishment; after which the 'ruling powers' would not allow the old artisan to carry out his project, so he kept the clock himself and, putting it on exhibition at about twelve and one half cents a head, has made his fortune.

One characteristic of the neighborhood of Goslar is the Farbensuempfe, ponds fed by streams from the Rammelsberg, and yielding the ocher dye so profitable here. Goslar was for a long time the favorite residence of the Saxon and Salic Emperors. Henry IV. was born here in 1050 and the attachment of the citizens to him involved the town in his misfortunes. In 1204 it was utterly destroyed by Otho IV., but rallied for many a long year of prosperity afterward. To day, prosperous and thriving in its quiet fashion, it sits among its green hills and wooes with an irresistible charm, the fancies of the poet and the painter.

## CHAPTER XIX.

And thus I kept wandering on in the beautiful June weather, each day penetrating a little farther into the mystic region of the Hartz. Never traveling at night, I had full opportunity to enjoy all the romantic scenery of this far-

famed locality.

It is indeed lovely; but with this, as with so many spots of historic and legendary interest, the enchanting element is not so much the actual characteristic of the scenery about us, as it is the connection between it and the songs and stories familiar to us since our earliest recollection, and the legendary lore that has come down through so many centuries, from a credulous and impressionable people; from a time when every grove had its dryads, every stream its nixies, every cave its gnomes and every mount its ogres.

Yet this locality, while very picturesque and certain to arouse enthusiasm in the romantic breast, in actual beauty falls far below our own Green, White, Adirondack or Cumberland ranges, nor can it in any wise compare with the grandeur of our Rocky, Nevada or Coast mountains.

But there is a quaintness and a wildness, which yet is not at all like the solitude of the virgin forests and stretches of our own new land; not a real isolation but rather an arrest of development by some mysterious spell, as of the Sleeping Beauty in the Wood, which attracts and charms.

The Hartz is chiefly a mining region and con-

sists of an isolated range rising abruptly from the plain on all sides, with heights and recesses unattainable in former rude eras, only by the

most indefatigable.

What wonder then that those heights and recesses above, looked upon by the toilers in the bowels of the earth below, but rarely save through the mists of morn and eve, should be peopled at will with ghostly multitudes, by the teeming fancies of the mystical and poetical German of the Middle Ages?

It seems strange to know to-day that the highest peak is only thirty-four hundred and fifteen feet above sea-level; but the atmosphere is clear and the sky is lovely, Oh! so lovely; and there is something about the air that exhilarates and makes one feel that the world is indeed

"very good." What is it Goethe sings?

"How brightly beams
The sun on me!
The fields and streams
Smile happily.

The flowers appear
On shrub and plain;
As if to hear
The wild bird's strain.

And love and mirth
To all increase;
O, Sun and earth!
O, bliss and peace!

The climate of the Hartz region is said to be much like that of Central Norway, even the heats of mid-summer being here agreeably tempered by the north winds of the Baltic Sea.

Many varieties of railway carriages do I encounter in this expedition; some entirely unique, others a combination of several different styles; altogether making such a confusion in my mind,

that I give up all idea of trying to remember them. One, however, I specially recollect because exteriorly it had a familiar look and I thought I had actually come across an American car at last. To be sure, it was of a rusty brown color, had very small windows and its outer finish was about on a par with American freightcars, but it had end platforms with steps, and doors leading from these into the end of each car like ours. I entered, but to my disappointment found that within it was divided off into tiny compartments as usual, though the aisle ran between the seats lengthwise, instead of across as ordinarily; but each compartment was shut off from the next by a door which the conductor locked every time he passed through, so that I could really perceive no advantage over the common style, except the fact that the conductor did not have to be exposed to the weather.

Now we are in motion again. As we go on and upward, the way becomes more winding and we are more and more shut in by the encompassing hills. Oker, Harzburg, Islenburg, Wernigerode and many other beautiful hill side towns spread out before us, each inviting us to tarry awhile amid its natural loveliness.

The former lies at the entrance of the wild Okerthal, the road ascending which, affords picturesque views of the precipitous cliffs. Ilsenburg is situated just outside the Ilsethal, one of the finest valleys of the Hartz, presenting a succession of remarkably striking rock and forest-pictures that at times are almost sublime.

The road, winding in and out and around the most charming scenes, follows a rushing mountain-brook, enlivened by a series of miniature waterfalls, in the midst of which one sees some

surprising rock-formations. The most conspicuous, perhaps, is the Ilsenstein, a precipitous buttress of granite, rising to a height of five

hundred feet above the valley.

Many are the foot-paths leading through all parts of this romantic region, and pedestrians of all grades and nations abound, from the barefooted peasant with shoulders bowed beneath a heavy burden, to the fully equipped, modern "globe-trotter" with fancy outfit and sturdy alpenstock, for "bikes" are here at a discount.

Here and there, at the most available points, may be seen some extensive and imposing castle. That of Count Wernigerode, above the town of the same name, is particularly picturesque in its lofty situation, looking down the slopes of the Hartz and upon the junction of two fine rivers.

Everywhere upon the most inaccessible crags, are seen the crumbling ruins, in various degrees of disintegration, of a ruder and more ancient architecture, whose former possessors, dwelling in continual warfare among these plateaus and peaks, have left little trace of their existence, other than these eloquent vestiges of

generations long since vanished.

The road now ascends still more abruptly through the beautiful, pine-clad valley of the Steinerne Renne, where the shadows are dense and silent and where the dashing mountain-torrent rushes downward over its stony bed, to find its level so far away in the vale be-One becomes almost bewildered the constant recurrence of cascade and cliff, of rock and rill, of sombre shade and sunny stretch.

We are favored with delightful weather and we hope for its continuance, for now we are about to reach the culminating point of our expedition, the ascent of the mist-enveloped and

specter-haunted Brocken.

We come at nightfall to the enchanting town of Blankenburg, which seems fairer and more charming than any before. They are so clean, these little towns, so trim and tidy, that one feels as if it were all the time some festal date and that everything was in order for the occasion.

I leave the train and am inducted into a "spick and span" little 'bus, that drives off and away, up hill and down, through smooth, twisty and narrow. but beautifully kept streets, where the old-fashioned houses seem to smile cordially upon the stranger. Finally we arrive at a queer old inn and drive right in at, apparently, the front doorway, but which proves to be a paved way, over which are bedrooms, and on the one hand, the dining-room, on the other, the office. A little farther along is a circular court under a glass roof, all within the walls of the dwelling, where the horses are unhitched and the vehicles left, while the animals themselves are led off through a rear door, to their own special quarters.

A stairway within, at one side of the front naved entrance, all decorated in gay, blooming plants and graceful vines, and overlooking the court which is also adorned with greenery, led to my apartment. This proved to be a large, old-fashioned room most comfortable and interesting, having three, instead of the usual two beds. I observed to the friendly Ober-Kellner, as he ushered me into my quarters, that, as I was alone, a smaller room and fewer beds would amply accommodate me, but he only replied smilingly, "Ach! dass machts nichts," and left me "alone with my glory."

Here the feather-bed covering reappeared,

which I had not seen for some time, and even then not quite in the present guise, for here there was literally no other covering except the sheet. In the cool, equable climate of this region, the funny, exaggerated cushions are by no means uncomfortable, even in summer, though exceedingly difficult to keep properly adjusted, during the "silent midnight watches."

I sleep well and rise next morning eager to delight my eyes with the beautiful prospect. On looking from my window, I find the street so narrow that I have to make an effort to see persons on the other side below, though I am only in the second story; but it would be very easy to converse with my neighbors on the cor-

responding floor across the way.

I go down and prepare for an exploration. For some time, English-speaking persons have been growing rare and rarer, and now I find that there is no one in the house, nor probably in the place, who uses my native tongue. This gives me a rather peculiar sensation and tends to foster extreme deliberation on my part, as I

strive to cogitate in German.

The road past the inn-door, goes on almost perpendicularly up a hill, on the summit of which looms the lofty, ducal Schloss, occupied by His Grace usually only in the shooting-season. It contains numerous mementoes of the Empress Maria Theresa, in the way of books, pictures and so forth. It is a lordly building of yellowish stone and, both from its position and its architecture, is very commanding.

To reach it, one passes the stately old Rath-Haus into which five balls are built to commemorate the bombardment by Wallenstein, during

the Thirty Years War.

I avoid the abrupt ascent and go around by

easy stages to another beautiful eminence, which I learn rejoices in the suggestive name of the

Schnappenberg.

This is an almost level plateau most attractively laid out in walks and groves. I find a seat under a spreading tree and gaze off over the lovely scene. Far down below are the picturesque slopes dotted with elegant and tasteful homes, and blossoming in a riot of color. clean, tidy, irregular streets wind in and out and echo to the steps of smiling people and the merry shouts of children.

To the north from across the valley, rises the Regenstein, a precipitous cliff two hundred and forty feet above the plain. Here may be seen the remnants of an ancient castle, standing out distinctly in the clear sunshine, its old walls sadly demolished and, indeed, little left of it except some vaults and embrasures hewn in the solid rock. As long ago as 918, this fortress was erected by Henry the Fowler, and for centuries successfully resisted the attacks of enemies, but it was finally reduced by Frederick the Great, and conquering time has done the rest.

On another side, the Ziegenkopf lifts up its bulk thickly covered with dense timber. On its very apex rises one of the present Emperor's watch-towers, a lofty, solidly built erection, which may possibly become one of the "ruins"

to be noted generations hence.

Not a peak nor a cavern nor a waterfall in this vicinity, but has its store of legends and, as I drop my eyes to the little book of Harzsagen in my hand, I see the familiar names repeated on every page, usually in connection with a beautiful, unfortunate princess and her lover, a valiant and splendid young prince; for in the olden day, even before the "gentle Will" had said it, it was as true as now that, "All the world loves a lover,"

There was some subtile charm about this pretty town that made me loth to leave it, but the Brocken unattained still loomed ahead, so I bade adieu to my affable hosts, in my best Hanoverian German, (which, I fear however, was not properly appreciated in this district of dialects,) and, taking train, still set my face heavenward.

## CHAPTER XX.

The next stage of my journey was made in a delightful observation-car somewhat larger than the ordinary continental carriage. It seemed more like a spacious, movable piazza, than a public conveyance. The sides, furnished with curtains adjustable at will, were entirely open except for a low wall about a yard high, in which was a gate for entrance on each side; the top formed a sort of canopy; a long seat ran across the two ends, facing each other, and two more ran back to back down the middle, on each side of a round table that was fixed in the center. There was plenty of room and every opportunity for outlook.

Our ascent was slow and gradual; now passing over slopes of verdant hue embroidered in brilliant wild flowers, now entering stretches of forest where the golden sunshine but filtered down through the close-set leaves and branches. Yet nowhere is that wild look that we see in like districts in America; everywhere there seemed to be homes, rustic and humble enough, it might be, but still places to live, while everything had an air of having been in use a long

time.

The fields, the roadways, the cliffs, the ravines, were ablaze everywhere with a splendor of golden color from a vigorous shrub that seemed to toss aloft its arms in joy and beam radiantly forth upon the world, with its millions of yellow blossoms. A kindly lady, noticing my interest, told me that this plant was called Gin-

star; I am sorry to say that this name did not satisfy me at all; I should have expected something more suggestive from the resourceful

German people.

Occasionally we come out upon a reach of level plateau where nestles some little village of red-roofed cottages. We pass a stalactite cave that has been known for centuries, and another cavern opened recently which is remarkable for the number and variety of fossil remains found within.

Presently we ascend a mill-valley with very curious rock formations, and finally quit the train at Rothehuette, for the remainder of the ascent is made by horse-carriage. The road is kept in excellent condition and for a while we roll on through a pleasant-looking country with fair, cultivated fields wherein women, old and young, and children of all sizes are toiling, rarely a man.

Beautiful shade trees relieve the landscape and frequent, tiny villages come into view, of antiquated and picturesque characteristics. The highest is Hoppe, a scattered hamlet very popuular as a resort, for all over the Brocken is to be found that modern institution, the Summer

Hotel.

The contrast between the simple peasant who has probably never left his native nook upon the mountain-side, and the blasé "resorter," is marked and amusing. Numerous waterways intercept our path, spanned by rustic bridges. Tinkling cascades make music. Cool, green shades embosom us. The neighboring rocks assume grotesque and fanciful forms. The forest grows denser and the face of the earth is one wild conglomeration of moss-covered boulders standing at every angle. How our road was

ever hewn through, must remain a mystery tothe feminine mind.

Here, at one of the narrowest portions, with a stream on one hand and the tall trees springing from their rocky bed close on the other, we meet a descending carriage; consternation seizes on all; women scream and men—ejaculate forcibly. The occupants of the new carriage, being young and agile scramble out, while the men unhitch the horses and tilt the vehicle in such a way that our party is enabled to "scrooge" past, and we heartlessly leave the others to their fate as we ascend still higher.

We are now near the top. Vegetation becomes very scanty near the summit and no trees grow, so says our conductor, within one hundred

and thirty feet from it.

Soon the great hotel looms up before us, black against the western sky. At one side, but detached, is a tower of mason-work from which, under favorable conditions, may be seen the domes and spires of Magdeburg, Erfurt, Gotha, Cassel, Hanover and Brunswick. A fine vista, truly, but I had in my mind's eye, the ravishing prospect beheld from about the same elevation, on Mount Hamilton, California, and this suffered in comparison; so I turned my attention to the consideration of the mental pictures evolved for us so long ago, by Goethe and others of the mighty ones in the arena of German poetry and Here is 'the ''meeting-place'' of the witches, on Walpurgis Night, made immortal by Goethe's vivid word painting. Here are several curious and grotesque granite formations, the Devil's Pulpit, the Witches' Altar, the Hobgoblin's Footstool. Here is the habitat of the Brocken's Spectre.

As the sun sank into his nightly bed and the pallid mists of twilight began to sweep up and

around the shoulders of the mountain, while that peculiar silence wherein there is no chirp of bird, no rustle of leaf, no stir of animal, became more and more impressive as the tourists withdrew by degrees into the hostelry, I let my fancy run backward to the time before the materialization of the "Summer Tripper," and the "Holiday Excursionist," when here the old Brocken lifted up its head in utter solitude.

For how many ages did storm and wind and cloud, and all the forces of nature, hold revel about this hoary crown? Not strange is it, that the untutored mountaineer, gazing upward from below at the conflicts of the elements, should have discerned therein the voices and the movements of supernatural beings? Hardy indeed was he who would venture to brave a closer proximity, by clambering into these lofty areas. But two lines of daily stages with their hilarious loads of vacation parties, make short work of sentiment, and the mystic mystery of the spot is gone forever.

I retired to my room in pensive mood, almost hoping that some wandering sprite of the olden ages, might float into my vicinity, for are not such immortal? I awoke in the morning to look out upon an ocean of mist wherein we were shut off from all visible connection with our mundane sphere; but I had been visited by no specters, no witches, and had seen nothing of a more startling nature than a collection of brilliantly red matches with orange tips, which certainly did seem allied to regions of sulphurous and

fiery character.

A little later we were driving away through the enveloping fog, which gradually disappeared as we descended into the valley, and I again returned to Blankenburg, from whence I resumed my tour of this interesting country.

## CHAPTER XXI.

The valley of the Bode, the grandest point in the Hartz Mountains, is reached from Blankenburg by a daily char-a-banc, or picuic-wagon, to Thale. Under the continuance of the clear June sunshine, I entered the vehicle one day and rode along the fair slopes and stretches lying between the two places.

The carriage highways through this part of the country are excellent, being hard, smooth and, where the lay of the land permits, broad.

A smiling, peaceful scene it was, through which we passed on this beautiful morning; realizing on the one side, a perfect ideal of a pastoral landscape, while on the other, to the left, rises a very remarkable series of huge, irregular masses of sandstone, known as the "Devil's Wall."

These do not form a plateau, but are thrust up through the turf in broken lines; now rising singly and in thin, flat-sided, jagged forms and again in fanciful shapes of considerable bulk, which are named as mediæval imagination suggested, as the "King's Chair," the "Giant's Table," and so forth. These all spring up abruptly, penetrating the green earth which lies smooth and unbroken on either side, so that the whole formation has indeed the semblance of a gigantic wall, through which some enemy has made innumerable and irreparable breaches.

Every point is legend-haunted, of course, while the wall itself is accounted for by the tale that the devil, having been outwitted in certain

transactions between himself and the good burghers of Blankenburg, and being thereby convinced that they were, in modern parlance, "too many for him," resolved to build a wall between that special quarter of the country where he was able to get the better of the simple folk, and that of the proud Blankenburgians who had presumed to overmaster his plans and had even dared to jeer at him as "the stupid devil."

So, attended by his unholy crew, he began operations at night, and great progress was made in the darkness. But, as the narrator quaintly remarks, "What good was it? Whatever built at night, at day-break fell in pieces again as soon as the morning sun shone thereupon; and no matter how much and how sorely they wearied themselves to build all firm and secure. they found when they would continue the next night that all their work was fallen down and shattered." At length did the despairing devil give over his attempt to divide "God's Kingdom" by walls and rocks, but the testimony of his impious undertaking is yet seen in the rent and ragged ruins which are standing today, between Blankenburg and Thale.

When we reached the charming village of Thale we found ourselves directly at the foot of the towering entrance to the Bode-Thal, through which plunges a roaring river guarded on either hand by bold precipices covered with a heavy growth of forest trees and shrubs. Midway up, and on the top of these heights, is situated many a comfortable inn of more or less preten-

tions.

The Ross-Trappe, a great, granite rock, here projects bastion-like into the dale, and rises abruptly to a height of six hundred and fifty feet. Beautiful is the view obtained from its summit.

A singular impression here in the rocky surface, resembling a gigantic hoof-print, is said to have been left by the steed, or Ross, of a lovely young princess who leaped across the valley at this point to escape the pursuit of an ogre who had singled her out for his victim. In her terrible spring, she lost from her head her golden crown, (for of course, no self-respecting princess would appear without her crown,) which fell into the abyss below and is, in its turn, the central figure of many legends.

Numerous are the picturesque drives all around in this neighborhood, supplemented by footpaths leading on where vehicles may not follow, into entrancing regions of woodland and out

on to the heights above.

Another "Witches Dancing-Place," more picturesque but not so weird as that of the Brocken, lies opposite the Ross-Trappe, than which it is two hundred and ten feet higher. The whole vicinity is indeed most interesting and, to one who enters into sympathy with the people and gathers up the folk-lore of the environment, it furnishes a wonderful store of memories.

Modern customs and conveniences, however, are by no means unknown in this charming section. Directly opposite the station, across the wide boulevard, is a splendid villa standing in an enchanting park where fountain, flower, foliage and winding way vie with each other in promoting the delight and refreshment of the visitor. This place, having the singular name of the "Ten Pound Hotel," is but one of several equally attractive though perhaps not on so magnificent a scale.

Time failed then to permit me to enjoy, as it does now to recount, all the charms of the locality, so, reluctantly turning away from the rocks

and crags and bowery nooks, I took the train for Berlin.

The face of the country changes abruptly in this direction, and leaving behind me the castled cliffs and rocky dells, I sped on through a valley as level as some of our great, western plains, arriving at my destination with nothing more eventful than a change at Magdeburg; which brought to mind the "Magdeburg Hemispheres," over which I puzzled in my early school-days, little thinking I should myself ever be within the confines of the venerable city of their origin. The air-pump and hemispheres with which Otto von Guericke made his first experiments, are still preserved in the Royal Library at Berlin.

## CHAPTER XXII.

Berlin, the capital of Prussia and the residence of the German Emperor, is now a city of nearly seventeen hundred thousand inhabitants, including its garrison of twenty thousand soldiers.

Nature has done little for this locality in the way of the picturesque, it being simply an immense, sandy plain only one hundred and ten feet above the level of the sea. But the region is well-watered and has an intimate connection by rail with all parts of the continent, and by navigable rivers with northeast Germany and Poland, and is said to be one of the foremost seats of commerce and perhaps the greatest manufacturing town in continental Europe.

Its situation on its serpentine river, suggests the old conundrum, "Why is Berlin, of necessity, the most dissipated of cities?" Answer: "Because it is, and always will be, continually on the Spree." But the Germans craftily evade this imputation, by pronouncing the name "Spray," so that the point of the joke is lost as soon as you reach *Deutschland*. The traffic upon this river and its canals is said to be even busier than that of the Rhine.

One notes again in Berlin the lack of height in the noble edifices one sees on all sides. The royal palaces and museums, opera-house, national gallery, university, new houses of parliament, arsenal and other beautiful buildings, are all comparatively low and broad; most of them having a suggestion of the classic in their con-

ception, though the forms of the Renaissance are also popular, while there is mainly a freedom from excessive ornamentation, that is pleasingly effective.

Berlin, I am told, is yet in a transition state. Not until after the wars of 1866, '70 and' 71, and the consolidation still later of the numerous provincial governments into one comprehensive imperial authority, did the city take its most decisive strides toward becoming what it now is,

one of the great capitals of the world.

The place is beautifully clean, the water and lighting systems excellent, and on the whole, while this metropolis may, perhaps, suffer somewhat in comparison with some of the older capitals of Europe, yet it has a distinct charm of its own that will constantly increase as improve-

ments and adornments go on.

The Thiergarten, which, as it translates "animal garden," I at first supposed to be a zoological inclosure, is a very extensive wooded park, really a cultivated forest, covering more than six hundred acres. It was originally a part of the Royal Preserves. The northern boundary is the River Spree, which lends itself effectively to the attractiveness of the place. Many little sheets of water dotted with tiny islets, lying in the shadows of the venerable forest trees and spanned by rustic or more ornate bridges, add infinite charm to the sylvan space.

Works of art are also scattered about through Exquisite statues in white marble, of Queen Louise, by Encke, and of Frederick William III, by Drake, stand not far from each other in bowers of greenery and surrounded by graceful jardinières and slender trellises of flowering plants. Many other fine specimens of the plastic art might be mentioned but the beauties of these two are especially enhanced by their exquisite setting within the verdant wood. Remarkably impressive figures of Goethe in marble and of Lessing in bronze face the Koeniggraetzer Street, on the eastern limit of the park.

Cutting through the *Thiergarten* from north to south, is the broad Avenue of Victory, one of the most fashionable promenades of Berlin. In the northern extremity, in the center of beautiful "King's Place," an extensive square adorned with flowers, fountains and statuary, rises the Monument of Victory, two hundred feet in height, standing on a circular terrace

approached by eight steps of granite.

This is a wonderful composition commemorating the great triumphs of 1870-71 and earlier campaigns. The massive square pedestal is adorned with exceedingly fine reliefs in bronze, each group presenting a vivid picture of some thrilling scene in German warfare. The suggestive pathos in face and attitude of many of these figures, is most appealing, and brought tears to the eyes of the writer, though an alien and a stranger. Space forbids detailed description, but one peculiar feature may be mentioned, consisting of three rows of cannon, sixty in all, captured from Danes, Austrians and French, now placed lengthwise on the great column, just above its flutings of yellowish gray sand-A colossal Borussia, or Prussia, fortyeight feet tall, surmounted by an outspread eagle in gilded bronze, crowns the monument which is truly an imposing and magnificent creation.

In 'King's Place' also is situated the beautifully stately new edifice, the Hall of the Imperial Diet, which occupies an area of fourteen

thousand square yards.

To the north, "King's Place" leads into

"Alsen Place" also lovely with beauties of nature and art.

At the southern extremity of the Avenue of Victory, stands the Wrangel fountain in a wide square, tree-bordered, and fitted out with comfortable seats past which an array of glittering

vehicles unceasingly rolls.

Running through the Thiergarten from east to west and directly at right angles to the Avenue of Victory, lies the Charlottenburg road, another wide, ornamental boulevard, leading out to the suburb of same name and to the royal palace where Emperor Frederick III. spent ten weeks of his last illness. In the pleasant and extensive garden, or park as we should term it, surrounding this palace, and at some little distance from it, through shaded and quiet ways stands the widely famed mausoleum erected by Goetz, in the Doric style. Here, beneath beautiful life-size, full-length, reclining marble portrait-figures, repose the mortal remains of King Frederick William III., his lovely consort. Queen Louise, their son, Emperor William I. and his empress, Augusta. The adornments of this snowy chamber are simple and chaste in the extreme, yet marvelous in effectiveness. A soft, purplish light falls through the stained glass of a single casement above the entrance, and faintly illumines the silent figures with subdued radiance. And there they lie in unostentatious majesty, until time, regardless alike of beauty, animate or inanimate, shall work his will upon their unresisting forms.

I dare say that most persons hearing of Berlin, picture to themselves the charms of the famous avenue, "Unter den Linden." I must own to sad disappointment in this historic street; many others in the city are far finer.

True, its associations are most interesting and, I presume, in an earlier day, before the era of "modern improvements," it was something to be particularly noted. To be sure, the avenue is one hundred and ninety-six feet wide, it is flanked by handsome and spacious palaces, hotels, trade-emporiums and public buildings; here are the French and Russian Embassies and other important governmental offices; but it is comparatively short, is dusty and untidy, while the two insignificant rows of scrubby little trees extending partially down its center, are poor representatives of the noble arborage in some other portions of the city.

The space between these rows of trees, intended for the pleasure of the pedestrian, instead of being neatly turfed, with cement or asphalt walks through the midst, as, for instance, in Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, is simply loose dirt, which is shuffled up in all directions by the wayfarer, to rise in clouds of dust all

about.

The Brandenburg Gate, which forms the western terminus, is not at all imposing, being too low for its breadth and looking as if made from dirty putty. The lower end of the avenue is more satisfactory. Here is the masterly statue in bronze, by Rauch, of Frederick the Great, on the right of which is the plain but massive and now unoccupied palace of William I., and on the left the academy and the buildings of the University, situated in pleasant grounds shaded by a grove of fine chesnuts.

Again on the other side, the Royal Opera House, Royal Guard-house, the unpretentious palace of Emperor Frederick III., where his widow, Queen Victoria's daughter, resides, and the arsenal, follow in quick succession, forming

a pleasing though by no means imposing prospect. Of all these, the arsenal is the most ornate and is one of the finest buildings in Ber-A striking feature of this, is the adornment, if it may be properly termed such, upon the keystones of the window arches of the inner quadrangle, with sculptured heads of expiring warriors in every variety of agonized expression,

depicted in the most realistic manner.

Leading off from Unter den Linden toward the south, is a beautiful arched passage, the Kaiser-Gallerie, glass roofed and richly decorated in terracotta, in the style of the Renais-This is one of the busiest and handsomest arcades in Europe, I am told, though not the largest. The display of goods is similar to that along the colonnades of the Rue de Rivoli, in Paris, and the locality has the further advantage of being entirely protected from the weather.

Berlin has many handsome and massive stone bridges which are really works of art in more ways than one, being ornamented with fine statues and groups in bronze and marble, both of mythologic and historic subjects, all wrought

and finished in a highly artistic style.

Over one of these, the Schloss Bruecke, we cross to the eastern prolongation of the "Linden," and find on the left a lovely, spacious square of nearly fifty thousand square yards. Large shade trees here form a beautiful grove branching over emerald turf and brilliant flow-In the center is a fine statue of Frederick William III. This place is called the Lustyarten, and was originally the pleasure garden of the Royal Palace, which fronts it on the south across the avenue. The square is inclosed on the east and north by the former cathedral and the Old Museum; in front of the steps of the

latter, is a curiosity in the shape of a ponderous granite basin said to be twenty-two feet in diameter and seventy-five tons in weight, having been hewn from a solid block of ten times the weight. As I looked at it, half a dozen small *Deutscher* laddies with little bare feet and well-ventilated garments, were trying

to scramble inside of the huge hollow.

The Royal Palace, official residence of the reigning sovereign, is located upon an island in the midst of the city, formed by a division of the Spree into two arms at this point which is reached from the west, as noted before, by the Schloss-Bruecke, while, going eastward, one passes over Emperor William's Bridge to the Boerse, or exchange; this, by the way, was the first modern building of Berlin executed in stone instead of brick. The palace is huge and impressive in a solid, severe style, with nothing particularly remarkable either in point of age or The oldest part was erected by architecture. Elector Frederick II., in 1443-51. His various successors have added or altered and pulled down, until the time of Frederick, the first king of Prussia, who desired to replace the irregular pile by a uniform structure of imposing propor-This project, however has never been completely carried out, and from 1716 to about 1845, comparatively trifling changes made.

From that time to the present, exterior and interior alike have been undergoing a gradual process of renovation. Connected with this palace is a ghostly apparition known as the Weisse Frau, or "White Lady," whose appearance in the castle occasionally, exactly at the midnight hour, is reckoned to be always a harbinger of death to some member of the House of Hohenzollern.

Fronting the principal façade of the Royal Palace, is the colossal bronze figure of William I., recently unveiled, the accessories of which are yet unfinished. When complete, with its semi-circle of statuesque adjuncts abutting on the river below, it will suggest the decoration and general effect, though on a smaller scale, of the Place de la Concorde in Paris.

In the line of antique structures, Berlin is rather deficient, those it does possess not being

particularly remarkable or ancient.

In the Kloster Street is a gymnasium founded in 1514, containing some chambers of an old monastery dating from fourteen hundred and seventy-four, that are still in a fair state of

preservation.

St. Nicholas Church is, I believe, the oldest sacred edifice in Berlin, although as it now stands it has many later additions to the original building. The square blocks of granite forming the bases of the two towers, date from the beginning of the thirteenth, the choir from the fourteenth, and the nave from the fifteenth Marien Church, built at the end of the thirteenth, and restored in the fourteenth century, is noteworthy as being the second parish-church of Old Berlin. Its peculiar Gothic spire, however, was added in 1796. In front of the principal entrance is the expiatory cross for the murder of the Provost of Bernau in the beginning of the fourteenth century.

There are a large number of fine sacred structures dating all along from the year 1840 to the present day; one, the most modern and splendid of all, is the Memorial Church to Emperor William I. It was in one of these modern churches that I listened to what my program styled (in German letters) a Geistliche Konzert,

which I blunderingly translated as a "ghostly concert," forgetting for the moment that geistliche is "spiritual" and "spiritual" is "sacred;" but it was truly enjoyable, whatever it might be called.

The old cathedral has been pulled down and on its site a splendid new one is building. They have a queer fashion here of entirely inclosing any building in process of erection, with great walls as high as the main parts of the contemplated structure, inside of which only the workmen are admitted, and which completely hide all operations from the outside public. At the corner of King street and the "Long Bridge," abutting on the river and just west of the statue of the Great Elector, is such an enclosure, and I passed it many a time with curious eyes; through chance crevices, or some occasionally swinging door, now and then I could get a glimpse of outlines of rare beauty and of decorations wrought out in fine stone and marble. Often did I inquire what this edifice might be, but strange to say, no one could tell me. Finally one day I resolved not to be baffled and, as I came to the spot in my daily walk, I turned into the large semi-circular area about the old Elector and, pacing back and forth for about half an hour, I accosted every pedestrian who came along. Among these was one couple. a lady and gentleman who evidently were tourists like myself; they were sauntering along, Bædaker in hand, and gazing here and there after the fashion of strangers in a strange land. They could give me no information but we got into a pleasant chat during which I was much puzzled to place the nationality of my interlocutors. I had never heard English spoken in quite their peculiar style. They certainly were not German nor French nor Scandinavian,—what were they? Could it be possible that they were English? I had met many English persons, but never any who spoke thus; still, I had not then been to England, and possibly,—no, it was impossible; no cultivated English tongue could ever twist its own mother-speech into such accents. It was only by the closest attention that I was able to understand. They were very friendly and had evidently seen much of the world. Finally, as I was about to turn away, the gentleman said:

"You are not English, I think?"

"No," I replied, "American."

"Ah—h!" rejoined the gentleman, with a pleasant smile, "Yes, thy speech bewrayeth thee."

"Well!" I mentally exclaimed, "Thy speech bewrayeth thee, too; unfortunately not quite enough, however, to satisfy me; I wish I could know your country."

But before I had opportunity to voice my de-

sire, he went on:

"Yes, I noticed you spoke differently from us; we are from Edinburg; but you speak well, very well indeed; we could understand you perfectly. Very pleased we met you; hope we shall see you again."

And with mutual bows and compliments, we separated, each marveling at the speech of the

other.

But I had not found out about the new building. Of the twenty or more passers by of whom I inquired, three, though native Germans, were strangers to the city: two besides the Scotch tourist and his wifr, were foreigners; six seemed to be just ordinary citizens, male and female; one was a porter; another a soldier; one a baker's boy; and the rest were children, boys

and girls of varying ages. Every one had essen-

tially the same answer:

"Ach! Dass kann ich nicht sagen, meine Dame," which, being interpreted, declared that nobody knew. Imagine such a state of things in an American community. My national, investigating spirit was subdued; I gave it up. When you go there, O, solitary sister, do you straightway betake yourself to that quarter and find out for me the desire of my soul. The shrouding timbers may then have been torn away and the structure within be known unto men and women, in free and over exhibition.

in free and open exhibition.

Not very far from the Royal Opera House and the 'Linden' lies Schiller Place, an extensive area wherein are found several noble buildings; of these, the French Church, the New Church and the Schiller Theater, are considered the finest architectural group in Berlin. In front of the Theater's principal entrance, stands a fine figure of Schiller and the whole area is lovely with trees and flowers. This group is particularly beautiful by moonlight; though, in making this statement, I resemble Walter Scott, if it be true, as declared, that he had never seen "fair Melrose" at night, when he wrote that to view it "aright" one must,

"Go visit it by pale moonlight,"

yet he spake truly, for all that, and so do I.

While I find this city very pleasing, I have one fault to find with the Berliners and with Germans in general, so far as I have observed over here, and that is that they do not, like the French, throw open their pleasant little parks and gardens, as a rule, to the public, nor do they provide so many resting-places for the wayfaring man, woman or child. True, the public is

permitted to walk through and sometimes a seat will be observed, but usually a high, iron railing divides off the pleasant and shady, leafy retreats, and often there is no entrance allowed into the interiors at all, even for a stroll, as in Leipziger Platz; of course, there are exceptions; noticeably here, the Thiergarten, Wilhelm and Alexander Places and a few others. In French gardens there are very few railings, and those are usually about some bed of delicate plants, or the like, while seats are everywhere.

Very odd names may be noted upon the various signs and placards of a German city, particularly so if lifted over bodily into their equivalent English. Fancy accosting anyone by the name of Mr. Nodding-goose, Mr. Bighead, Mr. Sweet-and-good, Mr. Gas-pipe, or a polished gentleman as Mr. Blood-sausage.

Some of the streets also have odd names when translated, as Bone-hewer, Big-berry, Youngfellow or Invalid Street, Forsaken Way, Wedding Place, and so forth; there is in Germany, too, a queer fashion of naming a thoroughfare by a phrase, as "To the Station" Street, "Behind the Catholic Church"Street, "On the Island"Street. and the like. One day I was startled to notice "Holy Ghost" Street, but soon saw this was only meant as short for "Holy Ghost Church" Street. I am told that here in Prussia, the national Government regulates municipal affairs in many departments. While the city may nominate, it cannot confirm its choice for mayor, the government does that: it also names all streets and public squares and no change can be made in any nomenclature without governmental assent

Berlin is not chary in her recognition of public men. In every square or locality of any importance, may be seen statues of more or less

pretentions, to the memory of some general, philosopher, scientist, poet or otherwise fa-

mous personage.

The art-collections of Berlin are comparatively inferior in importance, consisting largely of casts and copies and comprising few masterpieces or originals of worth, though I believe the Pergamenian sculptures acquired in 1879, and one or two other collections purchased since, are

really valuable.

Though I cannot expect even to allude to the major part of Berlin's characteristics, I will mention in closing, the circular Belle-Alliance Place into which three great avenues converge and which is laid out as a garden, in the center of which rises the fine "Column of Peace," placed here in 1840 to commemorate the peace of 1815. Four marble groups representing the four principal powers that participated in the decisive struggle, surround the column, which is crowned with a "Victory," by Rauch. the south side of the Place, a flight of steps ascends from the street and is adorned by allegorical figures in white marble. Opposite the top of the stairway and leading to the river, is Halle Gate, a monumental portal decorated with figures of the four seasons.

Berlin is remarkably well supplied with facilities for intramural transportation, though I saw but one electric line, and that running away out from the heart of the city, as seems to be the custom in large towns abroad. The conductors and drivers of the trams and 'buses, wear a very pretty uniform of light fawn-color, set off with leaf-green collars and ornaments; this is varied on hot days by "continuations" of white duck, which somehow they manage to keep in very fresh condition. The uniform of

the foresters, or, as we would call them, the park-police, is also very tasteful, consisting of rather wide trousers, a double-breasted, somewhat full-skirted coat and a wide-rimmed, quite high-crowned hat, all of a soft gray-green relieved with cords and frogs of a slightly deeper tinge, and a feather of the same in the hat. As for policeman in general, and soldiers, their costumes are glittering and varied beyond description and show to good advantage on the almost universally fine physique of the North German citizen.

These large cities abroad are usually well supplied with postal facilities of various sorts, but Berlin, I am informed, has, in addition to more ordinary conveniences, a system of Pneumatic Tubes for the rapid transmission of telegrams, letters and postal cards from one part to another of the city, including Charlottenburg. The places for deposit and delivery, are called Pneumatic Post-Offices, and letters or packets must not exceed a certain size and weight.

Postage on letters is about seven, and on cards about five cents.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

A hasty visit to Potsdam accompanied by a "lone sister" whom I encountered at my pension, (which, by the way, is kept by a von, the lowest rank of German nobility,) could not, of course, serve to gain a very thorough knowledge of this great suburb of Berlin, but so far as it

went, it was very interesting.

The weather was charming; the distance about half an hour's ride; and, as I had never yet been in a third class carriage, we concluded to take this grade and found it to be very like a large street-car in style and finish. The compartment-walls reached only about three-fourths of the distance between floor and ceiling, and each compartment opened into the next without any intervening doors, though each had doors on each side for entrance and exit, as usual. The seats and floors were bare, the former of varnished slats, as in a tram, and all was clean and comfortable, the rate being very cheap, about twenty-five cents for the round trip.

Potsdam, though a suburb, has fifty-five thousand inhabitants and a garrison of seven thousand soldiers. It is situated on a large island in the Havel, which island abounds in

lakes and wooded hills.

The town first came into prominence in the time of the "Great Elector," who did much for the place, founding here his park and garden; its later importance arose a hundred years after, under Frederick the Great, whose favorite residence was at Potsdam.

One enters the main town over the Long Bridge, a remarkably handsome, finely decorated structure, that leads directly to the Royal Palace. so called; though, as there are several other Royal Palaces here, within walking distance of each other, it strikes me that the definite article is rather misapplied.

After leaving the bridge, we pass an old linden, much bepropped and protected, under which, it is said, petitioners used to station themselves to attract the notice of Frederick the

Great.

The spacious pleasure-garden to the south of the palace, is inclosed in two rows of columns surmounted by a series of statues, groups and the like. This palace was erected in 1670. but re-constructed in 1750 by Frederick the Great, whose rooms here are preserved in good condition. There is much to be seen that is very interesting, but I must be brief and will allude to but one or two features.

In the apartments of Frederick William I, are a few pictures of his majesty's own painting under peculiar circumstances, that is, while suffering from an attack of the gout. The library of the palace is separated from the bedroom of Frederick the Great, only by a massive silver balustrade. Adjoining the library is a cabinet with double doors, from which a dining-table could be let down by means of a trap-door, and where the king might dine with his friends, at will, without danger of being spied upon by his attendants.

The town contains many fine public buildings, both sacred and secular, and the streets seem mostly wide and pleasant. Here also is a Brandenburg Gate, more effective than the one in Berlin.

We have time to visit but one church and we select the *Friedenkirche*, an edifice in the early Christian Basilica style, completed in 1850, containing the burial vaults of Frederick William IV. and his queen, Elizabeth, also of the

Emperor Frederick III.

The church stands apart from the busy highway and is surrounded with much verdure and bowery greenery. We enter at a little side door and, treading over the velvety turf of a shaded inclosure, we step around a side wall and come into a quadrangle shut in by arcades, where we are confronted by the bell-tower, one hundred and thirty feet high. Still farther on beyond the cloisters, we enter an atrium or "paradise" containing Rauch's Group of Moses and a copy of Thorwaldsen's Risen Christ. Then turning, we pass into the interior of the basilica, the roof of which is supported by sixteen Ionic columns in black marble. Some fine sculptures are within, and the recumbent figure of Emperor Frederick III., is especially good.

The marble forms lie on immovable and they all seem to be indeed very far from any vital interest; we do not quite understand why Frederick III. is placed here by the side of his uncle, and so remote from his father and mother. Frederick the Great and Frederick William I., his father, are buried in the Garrison Church.

We do not tarry long but step out from the cool silence again into the "garish light of day," and return to the green bowers and highway road, passing the "Great Fountain" which later on is seen in full play, mounting to a height of one hundred and thirty feet.

We reach a broad flight of steps sixty feet high, intersected by six terraces, in the top one of which are buried the grayhounds of Frederick the Great. Crossing the last terrace, we come to the entrance of the Palace of Sans Souci, the favorite and almost constant residence of this monarch.

His rooms are preserved unaltered and contain many interesting relics of the erratic yet illustrious sovereign and of his famous contemporaries. In a room once occupied for some weeks by Voltaire, are some very odd and rather ugly wood-carvings and embroideries. Room after room are we conducted through, which have all been used for the varied needs of life by the great king, but now "empty, swept and garnished." We are shown his spinet, flute, music, books, bed, the clock that he always wound and that stopped -as clocks of illustrious beings seem to have a way of doing,—at the moment of its owner's death, the chair in which he died and the like. How is it, I wonder, that so many of the world's celebrities of ancient date, died in chairs, instead of comfortably in their beds?

One room which impressed me most, was a long gallery, one side of which was glass, looking out upon the park, and where the king used to pace up and down in his later years, accompanied by his greyhounds. I could seem to see the irascible old man, in the grotesque dress of the period, traveling to and fro, chafing impotently at the infirmities that set to his activities a limit which even he could not overstep.

It makes history seem very real to visit these places, yet it is but a melancholy satisfaction, after all, giving one the feeling that every one is dead and gone, and causing one to reflect in the words of the Psalmist: "How shall thy servant stand before Thee, O, Lord?" and "What is man that Thou art mindful of him?"

The extensive domain about is very pleasant, diversified by hill and dale, by pool and fountain. Some laborers were cutting grass near by in the broad meadows, and the air was fragrant

with perfume.

Several other royal residences are within convenient distance, by way of lovely avenues through the imperial acres. We pass the famous mill which the old owner refused to sell to Frederick the Great, to that testy monarch's ineffable disgust, but the stubborn man's heirs were more tractable and it is now royal property. We next visit the Orangery, a comparatively modern structure in Florentine style, completed in 1856. The Charlottenhof, transformed, it is said, from a plain country-house to an Italian villa, contains many memorials of Alexander von Humboldt.

All these palaces are crowded with luxuries and curious articles of "bigotry and virtue," too numerous to name, though I will mention a chair of steel and silver, made by Peter the Great. To the west of the Park of Sans Souci, rises the summer residence of the present emperor, the palace of Friedrichskron, founded by Frederick the Great in 1763, at the end of the Seven Years War, and completed by him in 1769, at a cost of about two and a quarter million Among its beautiful and elegant apartments is conspicuous the modern "Shell Room," a vast chamber inlaid with shells, minerals and precious stones, in a most wonderful and taste-These objects, we are told, are mementoes of the visit of William II. (who, by the way, is styled the "wandering emperor,") to northern Europe. The chamber was seven years in construction.

We were weary now, physically and mentally,

and resolved to do no more sight-seeing. As we strolled along the fine, winding highway, beneath large forest trees, we espied a placard at the beginning of a woodland path, which placard bore the legend "To the Dragon's Cafe." This was tempting, so we turned aside and scrambled up the little hill until we came to a fanciful pavilion, above the cornices of which fiery dragons were snorting defiance to the world at large.

In spite of their ferocious appearance, we ventured near and, seating ourselves at a little table under a leafy tree, were promptly served with coffee in a dragon pot, and bread and butter upon dragon plates. This with tips to the waiter, cost us about twelve and one half cents each, which to the American mind was somewhat surprising. The coffee not quenching my thirst, I asked for ice-water; not to be had; then for an ordinary, plain, everyday drink of water; not to be had either; nothing but selzer, which somehow did not seem to "fill a long felt want." But refreshed and restored, we resumed our walk and, as we strolled along the avenue, which had now re-entered the park, there was a sudden reverberation of wheels, a clatter of hoofs, a gleam of scarlet and gold, and lo! an imperial carriage dashed by. This being royal domain, no other would be allowed to traverse it, so we had the spectacle for what it was worth. then trudged on reflecting, perhaps, that "the rich can ride in chaises," but we-could catch a tram, which we did, and in due time, arrived safely in Berlin.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

The next week I went on to Dresden, a monotonous trip of about three hours by express, which would have been very dull but for the delightful weather and the pleasant look of the fields and groves in the summer sunshine. The effect was marred for me, however, as it had been so often during my travels on the continent, by the sight of poor, exhausted looking women toiling with such a hopeless appearance at all sorts of heavylabors incident to the tilling of the soil; and at the same time having charge of infants of the tenderest age, which are sometimes strapped to the mother's shoulders, sometimes swaddled up in a bundle upon the grass, and sometimes, when the little feet have become more ambitious, are tied to trees or posts in the vicinity, with long bands that permit some degree of locomo-And at other times I saw in the beautiful grounds of enchanting estates, feeble, old women who were past their time of usefulness in the fields, bowed down upon hands and knees and crawling about the turf to pick up, one by one, the leaves and twigs that might be scattered I have been told that, for this service, they each receive six or seven cents a day; this may be an error, I did not verify it.

Women drag wagons and bear burdens of all descriptions, young children clinging to their gowns; older ones assist. I was fain to ask: "Where are the men?" Many, of course, have gone to be soldiers, but the question was an-

swered in another way, by a spectacle I saw one

day upon the street.

To a heavy cart laden with lumber of all kinds, old stoves, boxes, barrels and so forth, a middle aged woman was harnessed with a doy. Both were straining every muscle to move the vehicle, while behind, coolly lounging along, occasionally spurring up the "beasts" with harsh commands, pipe in mouth and hands in pockets, was the "lord and master" of the outfit. I suppose they were thankful he did not get into the cart and ride.

What enchantment of nature or beauty of art can compensate for such a state of things? In France, while women bear, as is just, their full share of the responsibilities of life, I saw no such degradation, and though I do not know the status of woman in French law, I do know that doglabor is forbidden.

Fair Germany, so beautiful and so endowed, why permittest thou these things so to be?

Still the wheels turn tirelessly onward and soon we enter the lovely suburbs of Dresden and note the grand sweep of the River Elbe as, spanned by three fine stone bridges, it curves

in front of the fair city.

Here, as in Berlin and some other German cities, the traveler is handed a metal ticket as he passes through the station-gate, and with this ticket he secures a cab of corresponding number. These vehicles are of two kinds, called first and second class. The latter is cheaper and roomier; the drivers wear yellow hat-bands and collars, instead of white as in the first class; the latter are supposed to be better fitted up, as a rule, than the second class, but in reality there is no very striking difference in the appointments of the two classes.

Dresden, as we all know, is noted for its magnificent picture gallery, which now ranks with the Louvre, the Pitti and the Uffizzi, and there are probably few travelers who do not make it the first objective point of their sightseeing. Abler pens than mine have set forth its treasures, and I will make no attempt to follow in their lead. But what a privilege it is to have these wondrous creations close at hand, where one may retire at will to marvel and to admire, or to be led in spirit, either backward to the eventful scenes of bygone eras, to the days of romance and chivalry, or up and away through the realms of imagination, to those elevated regions of thought and hope, to which we all strive to attain, in our best and noblest moments.

Dresden's collection is fitly housed, the edifice containing it being considered one of the finest examples of modern architecture. picture-gallery occupies the first and second floors of the Museum, and the Museum forms the north west wing of the Zwinger, which is a splendid structure that one really must see to obtain any adequate idea of its magnificence. It owes its existence to the splendor loving "Augustus the Strong," and, to quote a popular writer, "as Augustus the Strong bore some resemblance to Louis XIV., so the erection of the Zwinger recalls the palatial edifices built about that period as monuments befitting the glorious reign of the Grand Monarque of France." It consists of seven pavilions connected by a gallery of one story, inclosing a court one hundred twenty-eight yards long, and one hundred and seventeen wide, but only a small portion of the original design has been completed.

According to Bædeker, the present site of

the Museum was to have been occupied by a huge portal which was to lead to an elevated plateau flanked by two long palaces; these edifices were to have been connected by galleries, whence flights of steps would have descended to the Elbe. But the magnificent plan, conceived in 1711, and carried out until 1722, was never fully executed; and the Museum, now forming a part of the group, was built there in 1847-54.

Nor do the Zwinger and the Museum stand alone in their beauty. A grand old pile, the Roman Catholic Court-Church, rises diagonally across from the Zwinger, in a remarkably spacious square, and is truly an imposing and majestic structure; the parapets and entrances are adorned with seventy colossal statues of saints; the tower is two hundred and eighty feet high.

Opposite on the northeast stands the Court-Theater, a magnificent Renaissance building, covering an area of fifty five hundred and fifty square yards. It is so richly ornamented with paintings, with medallions, with figures in stone and bronze, that, like the Zwinger, it must be seen to be realized.

A handsome guard-house with vestibule upborne by six Ionic columns, is also in this square. All these edifices being detached, their full beauty and dignity are manifest to the beholder; across on the southern side, is the Royal Palace, the proportions of which are not so evident as it does not stand out by itself. Not far from this is a fine elevated terrace, that, lined with beautiful villas and handsome public buildings, and interspersed with great trees and lovely plats of plants and flowers, stretches away off toward the east along the margin of the Elbe. This was originally laid out as a private pleasuregarden, by Count Bruehl, and is approached from the Schloss-Platz, or Castle square, by a broad flight of steps adorned with gilded groups in sandstone, of Morning, Noon, Evening and Night.

The new Bohemian Station in Dresden, unfinished at the present writing, though completed enough for traffic, is I think, the finest that

I have ever seen.

Dresden has no lack of American visitors and students, and is, perhaps, as well known by people of other lands, as any foreign city in the The wife and daughters of one of our ex-consuls were at my pension. There was also a Dane lady, one French, one English, and one Russian: the hostess was German and all the others were United States Americans. Oddly enough, we were a family of women, our hostess being the kindest and most genial of maids, with no masculine belongings, and her patrons also, at this particular epoch, all unattended by gentlemen.

My windows overlooked a pleasant little park, where I would hear children frolicking at all hours of the day, and singing airs as familiar to me as to them, such as any group of American children might sing, "Lightly Row," "The House is Haunted," "Baby Bye," and sometimes what we call "My Country." Odd about this last air, that so many nations claim it as national Of course, these little folks sing in German, but, as I cannot distinguish any words at this distance, the effect is quite "homey."

particularly approve about One thing Ι these German towns, is the clear and distinct labeling and numbering of streets and roads.

There is very little possibility of a stranger losing his way if he can read the placards that are placed at frequent intervals all along the routes at every turn and corner, high enough to be out of the reach of marauding bands,—though such would be sternly dealt with here,—and placed solidly against some background where wind or storm cannot disturb them. In addition to the name of the street, on every corner building are painted the numbers contained in that side of the block, with an arrow showing which way they run; and though Germans do no not invariably, as we do, place odd and even numbers on opposite sides of the streets, yet under this system no one can fail to locate any desired spot, with very little effort.

Dresden has a fine system of both horse and electric trams, but I saw none of the 'buses that have been so numerous in many other places.

Desiring to visit the Albertinum, I entered a tram one day and when paying my fare, I explained to the conductor that I was a stranger and requested him to tell me when I had reached my destination. A nice-looking old gentleman sitting next me, asked me if I were a foreigner; on my answering that I was from the United States, he was interested at once.

"Oh! the United States," he said; "I have always wanted to see that great and wonderful

country; do you know Denver?"

I replied that I had visited there; whereupon he went on to tell about a son he had in some college there, who had evidently filled his old father's mind with admiration for the home of his son.

"You must go to visit him;" I suggested.

"No, I am too old," he rejoined, "I am seventy years old,"—he did not seem sixty,—"and I have been one of the King's Huntsmen for fifty years; much would I delight to get a shot at some of the grand and wonderful game in that far, far west."

His son, he said, was thirty-five years of ageand had just married a lady of twenty, what did. I think of that?

I replied that they had probably suited themselves, and he assented with a smiling "Ja, ja, ja;" but suddenly pointing outside, exclaimed,

"The King, the King!"

I turned hastily and beheld a plain, single-carriage wherein was seated a kindly looking old gentleman who bowed pleasantly right and left, but who was without the least insignia or appurtenance of exalted rank and with no attendant except his driver.

My old gentleman remarked that the king was always like that, simple and unostentatious in the extreme. About this time the old huntsman took his departure, after giving me most minute instructions for finding my way. I was

sorry to lose him, he was so friendly.

I visited the palace of this same King Albert of Saxony, the next day and saw his portrait in regal attire, looking down in dignity from the stately hall, but seeming even so, the same

kindly-natured being.

The palace is not specially noteworthy with the exception of its treasure-room called the "Green Vaults," which are splendid beyond description. Here is a most remarkable display of curiosities, jewels, trinkets, plate, gold and silver smith's work of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, enamels, ivory carvings and crystal cuttings, said to be one of the most valuable collections in existence.

I noticed in this palace, as I had done previously in Potsdam, Versailles, Berlin, in fact, in most of the ancient palaces, great mirrors composed of many panes, or pieces, not larger than a medium-sized window-pane; at first, I could

not imagine why they had been so divided, but learned later it was because they were made before the invention of the process for making large sheets of glass. The effects in reflection from these numerous divisions, are very odd.

Fourteen miles from Dresden, lies Meissen, an ancient Saxon town most picturesquely situated at the point where the rivers Triebisch and Meisse flow into the Elbe. In lofty prominence, one hundred and sixty feet above the town, towers the rocky Schlossberg, to attain the summit of which, one follows a winding, steep and narrow way, paved with square, flat stones.

A charming view is had from the top, before one crosses the massive bridge leading from one battlement to another, and enters the high walls that form part of the defences of the citadel. Here upon a spacious plateau, stands a gray old cathedral, and the vaulted castle, Albrechts-

burg.

But the chief interest at Meissen is the Royal Porcelain Factory, where is manufactured what is popularly known as "Dresden China." The art of making this, it seems, was actually discovered in a chamber of the Albrechtsburg. where the chemist Boettger had his laboratory and where the porcelain was made for a year, until 1710, when the present works just below the Schlossberg, in the Triebischthal, were established, since when the process has been There is an interesting paintcarried on there. ing in the old laboratory in the Schlossberg, representing Boettger at work, and explaining his process of making the china, to Augustus the Strong. The porcelain as first made was of a soft, "crushed-strawberry" color, but it is now wrought out in most delicate blue and white, ornamented, of course, in various styles. We were taken all over the Factory and found it marvelously interesting, our guide explaining everything in the most painstaking manner. At Sevres, visitors are not allowed in the workrooms.

## CHAPTER XXV.

Rising boldly from adjacent steeps and overlooking the winding waters of the Elbe, looms the Bastei, the finest point in Saxon Switzerland, ten hundred and thirty feet above sealevel.

Taking train at Dresden, one passes over a route growing more and more picturesque, as it

follows the course of the sinuous river.

In the genial, but not oppressive sunshine that is so characteristic of the summer season here, our party set forth to view the beauties of

this romantic region.

Arriving opposite the little village of Wehlen, we quitted the train and walked past the few small houses clustered about the station, and down a winding path to the river, where we found a not over large, but rather unwieldly row-boat, the owner of which consented to take us across.

Two or three persons from other points had already assembled here and just before me in stepping into the boat, was a stubby, impassive-looking fellow of middle age, in rustic garb, while already sitting in the boat was another man, somewhat older, short, fat and "rolypoly," with a jolly, red face and an expression "childlike and bland."

As these two spied each other, they rushed ecstatically together at the risk of upsetting the boat, clasped each other in the most fervent of embraces, kissing one another over and over on both cheeks and ejaculating euthusiastically:

"Ach Himmel!"

"Du lieber Mann!"

"Mein bester Freund!" and so on repeatedly until at last they subsided into their seats, still clasping hands and beaming upon each other delightedly. We looked on with amused interest, striving to fancy the closest of American male relatives going through such a scene even in private. Not that we condemned the spirit; indeed, we considered it rather refreshing and infinitely preferable to the bored and blasé demeanor affected by many of our exponents of good form; still, it might be well to take account of stage-setting and audience, before fully giving way to one's emotions.

By this time we had all found places, and

soon moved slowly across the stream.

Arriving safely, my companions scattered their several ways, and I wandered through the delightfully quaint little village, on past an ancient church where, turning, one follows a good wide path that ascends gradually but constantly as one proceeds. It winds along through a narrow ravine, thickly wooded, and almost immediately there is no trace of human occupation and one seems to be in the very depths of some 'forest primeval.'

The path gradually contracts and soon the way becomes but a mere defile between great, towering buttresses of gray rock, which stand out in solid masses of such substantial and regular continuity, that they seem to have been reared by giant hands under the leadership of

some mighty master-mason.

Though the trees have now removed themselves to the top of these lofty battlements, for there is no room for them in the gorge, yet the air is cool and the light shaded, for these reach down to the wayfarer, from above into the abyss, between hundreds of feet of solid rock.

Though it seems so isolated, yet it is not lonely, for merry parties are continually coming and going upon this marvelous, meandering way. A company of children under charge of two or three adults, passes on singing; it disappears around a turn of the mighty chasm, and the voices come back echoing and re-echoing from the granite walls.

Still upward and onward; here and there a vine trails downward from far above, or some aspiring moss stretches up from the foot of the prolonged precipice, and embroiders the gray surface of the rocky ramparts in traceries of living green. A little rill flows out now and then, and a daring blossom thrusts forth its

dainty head at occasional intervals.

Up and up and up; still tower the rocks on high, growing more grotesque and tremendous; but we are coming to the top and finally we emerge from the defile, into an extensive pine wood through which we clamber still upward. And now we come to level ground and discover a tiny, woodland restaurant, Der Steinerne Tisch, or "The Stony Table," with inviting attractions for refreshment; but we are too near the aim of our exertions to stop here, so we press on, and at length we reach the highest peak of this huge precipice called the Bastei.

There is a fine inn on the summit of the cliffs, and the whispering forest creeps up close to its walls. Between the main façade of the inn and the brink of the crags, are exceedingly wide verandas, railed in for safety's sake, and here was found a motley company of pleasure-seekers, eating, drinking, chatting cosily, or listening to the music provided for its entertainment.

Finding a seat close to the edge of the platform, I look down on the wonderful panorama

spread out below.

North, south, east and west, the eye sweeps in voiceless admiration. Far down in the green and peaceful valley, the Elbe rolls its placid waters, six hundred and forty-five feet beneath, bearing upon its bosom many a little craft of pleasure or traffic and curving gracefully from point to point until lost amid the wooded ravines and stony steeps at either hand. Tiny hamlets dot its borders, country roads and fertile fields lie all along its stretches, until the mighty bastions of rugged rock tower up beyond, seeming to say: "Thus far and no farther."

We are told that from this pinnacle one overlooks the whole of Saxon Switzerland, and we are willing to believe it as we gaze abroad.

And now, laving feasted bodily and spiritual eye to the full, a more ignoble, perhaps, but not less useful organ asserts its claims to recognition, so I summon a "Kellner," and demand some slight internal refreshment.

"And what will the gracious lady be pleased to desire?" is the polite inquiry of that func-

tionary.

The "gracious lady" intimates a longing for

chocolate and cake.

They appear; the first is tempting; the second—interesting but unrecognizable. I appeal to the waiter: "What is this?"

"Cake, gracious lady."

"What makes it so dark?"

"It is the flour, gracious lady."

"But why is it so dry and queer?"

"It is its age, gracious lady."

"Its age! I don't want aged cake; bring me some fresh, please?"

"But perhaps the gracious lady does not know that we make it only once a year and it is not now the season."

I am aghast. Cake a year old! How do they ever manage to keep it in any wise, for that time, and why do they wish to do so? For it is not a rich fruit cake with wines and spices to preserve it.

But I have exposed my ignorance, doubtless, by my horrified expression, for the servant goes on to explain that this cake is a specialty in this region; that it is prepared from a recipe handed down from time immemorial and is, by some method which I really did not comprehend, subjected to a sort of "curing" process; perhaps on the principle applied in treating certain celebrated cheeses, that must lie for a year or so in special caves under peculiar conditions, to acquire their distinctive qualities. events, the waiter prevailed upon me to taste the cake and, to my amazement, I found it to be very good indeed. I regret that I neglected to ask its name, so I can only refer to it, on occasion, as the "aged cake."

One has a choice of a variety of routes on the Bastei, and, in descending, I took the shortest and most precipitous, that leading to Rathen.

After going down the first descent from the hotel, one passes over a massive, mid-air bridge constructed in 1851, that connects the various summits of the rocky pinnacles that here rise hundreds of feet from the valley.

Most astonishing and diverse are the views one obtains from this bridge, as one is alternately completely shut in by the huge turrets of ragged rock, or gazes off into space and down into the abysses at either hand; that on the right revealing the smiling valley, that on the left, great masses of rock clothed in hardy woodland growth of varied green.

High up on these grim walls that rise so far above one's head, is set many a tablet commemorative of some honored citizen or eventful occasion of the vicinity.

Shortly after leaving the bridge, the path broadens and a space of perhaps fifteen feet in width is reached. Here, at the extreme verge of the precipice, looms a mighty boulder, so vast that one's mind fails to take in a computation of its solid contents.

Apparently poised and ready for a plunge, it is in reality perfectly firm, and its base is beautified by neatly kept beds of blooming plants and flowering vines; for this boulder has been converted into a monument to some sweet singer dear to the Saxon heart, and his name and fame are set forth in graven letters far above.

Then again the path contracts between the stern stone walls and, growing steeper and steeper, is at length merged into one long staircase of stony steps, to cut which must have cost almost inconceivable time and labor, and which is so narrow that one's out-stretched hands may easily touch the rocks at either side, nearly all the way. Occasionally there will come a short, comparatively level stretch, where trees spring up and mosses and ferns abound, then more steps and again down, down, down.

This, though very tiring, is exceedingly rapid traveling, and presently a lovely, green, sloping meadow is reached, around the edge of which the path leads on, until soon it descends again steeply and a few more steps appear; then a paved way which finally leads down into the pretty, rustic village of Rathen, with a ruined

castle overlooking the cottages and lanes.

The railway station is on the opposite side and, as I am about to embark in a little row-boat to reach that point, I glance up the stream and perceive a small steamer coming down, and find

that I can return to Dresden by water.

So I board the trim vessel and, finding a quiet and sheltered nook on the rear deck, I compose my weary limbs in a comfortable position and watch the lovely panorama unroll itself behind us, as we make our way back to the city; stopping with shrill "toot" and much churning up of the current, now on one side of the river, now on the other, at the neat villages scattered all along the shores.

Some of the towns are of considerable consequence, as Pirna, with its fourteen thousand inhabitants, its old fortress and its quarries of sandstones; or Koenigstein, not so extensive in population, but possessing a still more important fortress imposingly situated eight hundred

and fifteen feet above the Elbe.

This great pile was originally a castle, down to 1401; then a monastery, then again fortified in 1540. Its well is six hundred and twenty feet deep and contains sixty-five feet of water. We are told that the treasures and archives of Saxony, are deposited in this fortress in time of war, but at present it is used as a state-prison. But most of the landing-places are merely rural hamlets or the summer homes of urban denizens.

Not far from Koenigstein and rising some one hundred and fifty feet higher, appears the Lilienstein of tragic memory. At the base of this huge crag in 1756, fourteen thousand Saxon soldiers were surrounded by Prussians under Frederick the Great, and compelled to surrender on account of hunger. But nature smiles on as ever, and fair and peaceful glints the landscape in the summer sunset.

It is a much longer distance back by water than by rail, and evening tints and shadows begin to creep athwart the scene, ere we come to the long rows of fine villas that mark the approach to Dresden. The noble contours of the city's impressive architecture and the graceful spans of its artistic bridges, are thrown distinctly against the deepening sky as we glide into port, and find ourselves at our journey's end.

# CHAPTER XXVI.

From Dresden to Leipsic is but a short journey, only two and one quarter hours by express. The train winds along through a very pretty country on leaving Dresden, keeping for some time at the base of the Loessnitz Hills, which are "with verdure clad" and dotted with many

fine villas and country homes.

I did not stop long enough in Leipsic to gain much of an idea of its characteristics. It is, of course, well known as the center of Germany's book trade, a position it has held for over a hundred years. Statistics show there are more than a hundred printing offices and about six hundred and fifty publishers, and book-establishments in this city of three hundred and fifty six thousand inhabitants, while publishers in other parts of Germany have, almost without exception, emporiums of their books at Leipsic, whence they are sent out over all the world.

Leipsic is also the seat of the supreme lawcourts of the German empire, while its facilities for the study of music and other special lines, are taken advantage of by hundreds of foreign students. The city is not so handsome, to my thinking, as many another in this region, but it has of course, its fine and interesting features.

The name is said to have been at first Lipzk, or "the town of lime trees." It is mentioned first in history in the eleventh century and was soon after fortified. These fortifications are now changed, as in so many other old-world

towns, into pleasant promenades beyond which lie the inner suburbs, which in turn are inclosed

by the outer suburbs.

The New Theater is a handsome building; the Museum opposite is chiefly noted for its collection of modern pictures; the Augusteum is the stat of the University founded in 1408 and now attended by more than three thousand students. These edifices, with the post-office, surround the spacious Augustus Platz where is also a fine, monumental fountain.

Goethe was a student here in 1767-8. Auerbach's Keller on Grimmaische street, is celebrated as the scene of a part of Faust; it contains some curious mural paintings representing, we are told, the tradition on which the play is based.

In Goethe street is an obelisk celebrating the completion of the Leipsic and Dresden railway, which was opened in 1837 and was the first of any importance in Germany. Of course, as an old University center, Leipsic has numberless relics of celebrated men.

Poets, philosophers, musicians, painters and others are commemorated by tablet and token, by monumental brass and stone.

The Rosenthal and the Connewitz Woods are both pleasant sylvan retreats beautified by skill and taste. Two miles southeast of Leipsic, is Napoleonstein, a wooded height from which Napoleon watched the progress of the battle of Leipsic in 1814. It lasted, as history tells us, four days, and is the most prolonged and sanguinary on record. Many relics have naturally been found about here and are preserved with great care. The only building on which bulletmarks are still visible, is the château at Doelitz, two miles west of the obelisk.

Leaving Leipsic by the Thuringian railway, I found myself passing through an exceedingly

picturesque district.

We change cars at Corbetha, near which three celebrated battles were fought in the years agone, in the first of which, Lueten, Gustavus Adolphus, king of Sweden, was mortally wound-At Rossbach, Frederick the Great gained a signal victory in 1757; and in 1815 a fierce engagement took place between the allied Russians and Prussians against the French. How every foot of these ancient lands has been dyed over and over, throughout the centuries, in the bright tide of human blood. Even so in our own land, no doubt, but the red chieftains and warriors of those bygone ages there, had no poet, no historian, and so their bravery and valor, their struggles and conquests, are all unwritten and unsung and we know them not.

All is smiling and peaceful here now as we run along in the valley of the Saale. amidst many spots of quaint and historical interest; the country gradually becomes more broken and we see vineyards all about on the hill-sides, while from frequent castle and cathedral, turret and pinnacle spring aloft toward the clear, blue

sky.

A pleasant lady now joins me in my compartment where I have been for some time alone. Seeing I have English literature, she is interested and we get into conversation. She is familiar with this part of the country and kindly calls my attention to many a point that otherwise might have escaped my notice. The dusky evening begins to gather as we wind in and out of the hills and along by the rippling river. We have left the Saale and are now on the banks of the Ilm. Suddenly we are abreast of two striking ruins so

near that they are startlingly distinct in the shadowy light. They are not of the soft gray hue that is usually the result of the wear and tear of ages, but of a light yellowish tint, something like the cream-colored brick of our central states.

They stand facing each other across a narrow gulch and are not perched, as is general, upon some dizzy height, but stand on two moderately high elevations that slope gently down to the valley. Cruel rents and jagged breaches are in their dismantled walls, evincing the desperate struggles through which they have passed.

My companion says that it was an ancient custom of certain tribal enemies, to rear castles thus near each other on the edges of a ravine, and then to fight across until one or the other party was conquered or exterminated, when the vanquisher took possession of his victim's property. The slopes seemed so soft in their contours and the green grass so velvety and tender, that those grim objects looming up in the dim light had a weird and peculiar effect.

Weimar is reached only in time for supper and bed, but the next morning I start out with renewed vigor. Very lovely indeed looked the old town which has so many literary associations, the master spirits among which are

Goethe and Schiller.

The houses of each of these two distinguished writers and "world-poets," are kept as far as possible in the condition in which they were

left by their distinguished occupants.

Schiller's home is modest and unpretending, consisting of a few rooms in the upper story of a medium-sized house in Schiller Street. They are plainly furnished and contain many personal and family mementoes. Schiller's life in Wei-

mar was brief as compared with Goethe's, and the former had neither the time nor the opportunity to gather about him such treasures as Goethe accumulated in his long and varied existence.

It seemed strange to look out at the windows and reflect that I was gazing upon the same scene that Schiller had viewed day after day; to sit at the desk and in the chair where he wrote his wondrous lines; to go down the narrow stairs which he must have trodden so many innumerable times back and forth. It made me sorrowful for, speaking from his immortal works, he had ever before seemed a living presence to me, and now I realized that he was dead and that the places that knew him were empty forever.

I did not feel the same sensation of sadness in Goethe's house. Perhaps it is because the place is so very different, so much more extensive, and fitted up so much more in the style of a public museum, that the idea of personality is lost in a measure, and one feels rather as if merely viewing another of the numerous art and curio collections that so abound abroad.

Goethe was a wide traveler, a most cultivated and many-sided character. He lived in Weimar fifty-six years, during forty of which this house, presented to him by Duke Karl August, was the dwelling of the great poet. A spacious staircase with wide ante-rooms, designed by Goethe and profusely decorated with statues and cartoons, leads to the reception-rooms. To the left is the Juno Room; then follow the Urbino Room; the Deckenzimmer, which with the adjoining chamber, forms a suite; the Bust Room; the Garden Room, besides the more usual living-rooms.

In these apartments, arranged and classified by Goethe's own hand, are his wonderful accumulations of portraits, antique gems, medals, orders, rings, copies of and original valuable manuscripts, paintings, sketches and drawings, besides a large number of Goethe's own handiwork, medallions, gifts from countries, cities, corporations and friends from all parts of the world, including one from the United States, which consists only of a small circular disc of some kind of wood, on which was imprinted the name of some newspaper and the date, 1846; (I am sorry that I omitted to take a note of the inscription, and find that I can not recall it;) vases, cups, drinking horns, rare china, coins, plaques, minerals, precious stones, statuettes. sculptures, the piano on which young Mendelssohn played, and so forth, including, I verily believe, every variety of objects that can be collected, except living specimens.

One is first dazzled, then dazed by the variety, value and beauty of this astonishing array, and it is rather a relief to come at last to the back of the house where, overlooking an old-fashioned garden, are Goethe's simple study and bedroom.

These two are furnished in the sparest and plainest fashion, the bedroom containing nothing but a single-bed, a bare wooden wash-stand and a large arm-chair by no means luxurious, in which he died. The floor is bare, the room narrow and contracted, with but one small window, yet it is just as he left it.

From these close confines, that mighty genius which had moved the world with its wondrous power, went out into the mystic beyond; leaving in passing, no feeblest trace or impress upon the material objects that had served its earthly needs so long.

Oh! the mystery of spirit, which, while here in mortal guise, can sway the whole round globe; and yet, departing, freed from fleshly housings, can send back no slightest manifestation thereafter, through all the ages of the circling spheres.

There is no one left to inherit Goethe's fame and treasures; they are accredited to the state;

the family is extinct.

Passing out from all these mementoes of a vanished existence, I come again into the warm sunshine and roam about where fancy beckons. Of course Weimar has its *Schloss*, and I come upon it quite accidentally, in passing through a queer and crooked street which takes me round many a turn and corner.

Suddenly it broadens out and upon the opposite side stretches away a beautiful domain of emerald turf and majestic trees, while a massive and stately edifice rears itself in the midst of the cool shades. Noticing a seat at hand by the door of a shop, I take possession of the same

and, looking across, enjoy and admire.

Young Germany, in the guise of a toddler of about eighteen months, comes out of the shop and welcomes me rapturously. I return the small man's expansive smiles and shake the chubby, little paw, somewhat begrimed, that he insists on offering. Not content with this, he ambles back into the house and returns with his mother, performing all that is essential in the way of introduction, by renewed smiles, many gestures and several "gee-gees" and "da-das," a sort of infantile Volapuek. The mother also proves friendly and is much pleased to learn that I am admiring the view. And then rested and cheered, I go on to the many other interesting spots that I must not attempt now to chronicle, merely referring to the Stadt Kirche, with its parsonage near by occupied by Herder for so many years, and to a fine, bronze statue of him, standing in front of the church and bearing on the pedestal his favorite motto, "Licht, Liebe,

Leben," (Light, Love, Life.)

There are numerous monuments in Weimar to its celebrated men, as Karl August, Wieland and others, but the most imposing of all, is that erected to Goethe and Schiller in front of the Theater, where the colossal figures in bronze of the two poet-friends, are represented standing side by side, with clasped hands.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

Without having half exhausted the interests of Weimar, I continue through the hills and dales and beside the numerous water-courses of this

picturesque region.

The weather is still delightful; in fact, I am charmed with the summer climate of the continent, so far as I have experienced it. shines out clear and genial but not oppressive; our excessive heat is unknown and in the warmest days it is cool in the shade. Another most remarkable thing is the scarcity of flies and insects. I have not yet seen a screen in use, though I did notice two windows in Potsdam that had screens at hand, also one later in a hotel in Holland, but they are almost unknown. Doors and windows stand wide open; night after night I read or write by gas, oil, electricity or candle as the case may be, before open windows, and yet never a fly or a moth disturbs me then, nor during my highly prized morning nap. could not be done with us at home in mid-summer, nor indeed at any time from April to The nights are cool and refreshing and I have never yet been inconvenienced by the heat, though the "natives" frequently complain because it is so "awfully hot."

Not far from Weimar we come to Erfurt, a quaint old town near which is a salt mine with

a shaft thirteen hundred feet deep.

The train now approaches the north slope of the Thuringian forest. The hills grow more towering and on nearly every height is a castle, either in ruins or "brought down to date" for modern use. About five miles from Erfurt, are three isolated hills called the *Drei Gleichen*, which might be freely translated as "three of a kind;" they are each topped by a castle; one of these, the Wachsenburg, is in good preservation, the other two are beautiful in their decay.

Skirting the Seeberg, we come in view of Gotha, a busy mercantile place, beyond which a fine outlook is obtained on to the Thuringian

mountains.

Now we follow the course of the river Hoersel. A long, jagged and precipitous range rises on the right, called the Hoerselberg. This attains a height of fifteen hundred and seventy-five feet and extends nearly to Eisenach. Tradition locates here the grotto of Venus, into which that goddess lured the knight Tanhaeuser.

Soon we see against the horizon the towers of Eisenach, a town of twenty-one thousand inhabitants and commonly called the finest point in the Thuringian forest. Five hundred and sixty-five feet above the city looms the great fortified castle of the Wartburg, situated on a mount of the same name. Founded in 1070, it has passed through numerous startling vicissitudes, but in the last half century has been restored to its original grandeur and ranks as one of the best Romanesque secular buildings existing.  $\mathbf{A}$ grand retrospect of frowning old fortress, is had as the train follows the Hoersel to its junction with the Werra. The ruins of Castle Brandenburg are seen on the left and then an envious tunnel shuts off our view.

We next find ourselves in the valley of the Fulda. Fine streams are numerous and the country is undulating but with few prominent

elevations. At Hersfeld is pointed out to us a Benedictine Abbey founded in 769, once of great importance but now used as a school-house. The abbey church was destroyed in 1761, but its ruins are majestic in their beauty.

This section of the country was occupied at a

very early date.

The town of Fulda owes its origin to an abbey founded in 754, while its little church of St. Michael, was consecrated in 822.

Many ruins all about in vale and on height, give picturesque evidence of time's tireless ener-

gies.

The train descends the valley of the Kinzig. In this river is an island whereon are the remains of an imperial palace erected before the year 1170. Here the emperor Frederick Barbarossa held a Diet in eleven hundred and eighty, to pronounce the deposition of Duke Henry the Lion of Saxony. Beyond this point the country is level. We reach Hanau, noted, among other things, as the birth-place of Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm. We cross and recross the mighty river Main and find ourselves in low-lying Frankfort.

Flat indeed it seems to eyes for some time accustomed to the diversified scenery farther east, of the Hartz Mountains, of the Saxon peaks and pinnacles, and to the pleasing heights and wooded slopes of the Thuringian and the Black forests. Not an eminence is to be noted as one's eyes sweep about, and the horizon is unbroken except for the uprising towers and turrets, of

which Frankfort has its full quota.

Ages ago, we are told, a vast expanse of water rolled over this plain, "filling the space from the Alps and the Jura to the Taunus and Hundsrueck mountains," and connected by a narrow sea-arm to the German Ocean. But now we see

no rolling waters except the magnificent Main, which adds so much to the attractiveness and

importance of the city.

Frankfort ambitiously dates itself back to the first century when, it is claimed, the Romans built a castle on the present "Cathedral Hill," so called, though why "hill," I am unable to divine.

This Roman military post fell before the conquering German tribes of the third century, who themselves were conquered centuries after,

by the Franks.

The place is first mentioned as Franco-furt, "the ford of the Franks' country,"—in a document dated 790; and three years afterward, Charlemange came here with his whole court and remained eight months. I came across a little German prem the other day, written long ago by August Kopisch, which gives the traditional discovery of "the Franks' ford." Perhaps my "lone sister" may be interested in a translation:—

The best of all his heroes in Saxony lay dead, Thence Carolus Magnus, Kaiser, in dire disaster fled.

"On to the Main, my soldiers, a ford we there must find,—

But woe,—the mist lies forward, the foe crowds-close behind!"

Then Carolus sank down praying on knee beside his spear,

When lo! the mist divided, while forth there sprang a deer;

She led her young in safety through to the other side.

And thus by God's own favor the Franks the ford espied

- Then forward all pressed over, as Israel through the sea,
- The Saxons, mist-enveloped, no ford beyond could see.
- Then struck the Kaiser Carol upon the sand his spear,
- And vowed, "It shall forever be called the Frank's ford here."
- But later back he came there with mighty warrior-band,
- By which he then had conquered the lovely Saxon land.
- But yonder on the river now shines a city proud, With noble sons and daughters, with wealth and fame endowed.
- And there has many a Kaiser been crowned with Carol's crown,
- And on his throne be-jeweled, in splendor sat him down.
- There oxen whole are roasted, there wine in fountains flows,
- There gifts for every poor man the horn of plenty strows.
- The chief lord to the Kaiser lifts cup in Roemer's hall:
- With Kaiser-portraits covered gleams forth each glittering wall.
- With Kaiser-portraits covered o'er every inch of space,
- No later ruler's picture could find there now a place.
- Thus Germany's first Kaiser name for the city found,
- And Germany's last Kaiser was in this city crowned.

Stirring and vivid have been the fortunes of the ancient city; fierce and tireless the warfares waged by opposing powers, for supremacy within its borders: hard indeed is it to realize its vicissitudes of the past, as one walks through

the handsome city of to-day.

There are a few traces yet existing of the later day fortifications of the town. One of these is the Eschenheimer tower, a noble specimen of medieval, defensive architecture. This tower has its tradition as follows:—

Hans Winkelsee, a poacher, fired at a municipal gamekeeper and, after an imprisonment of nine months in this tower, was to be executed. He claimed to have fired only to frighten the keeper and not with intent to kill, as otherwise he certainly would have hit him.

In order to show his unerring markmanship, he offered to shoot nine bullets in nine shots into the weather-vane of the tower; as he succeeded, his life was spared and he was set at

liberty.

Frankfort has a fine cathedral but, though it occupies the site of a succession of previous sacred edifices running back to the ninth century, the present building is very modern, having been erected between the years 1869 and 1880, the structure immediately preceding having been destroyed by fire. There is a very peculiar mortuary memorial in the inclosed yard of this cathedral. It consists of a most realistic representation of the crucifixion, with life-sized figures and all the accompanying dreadful and agonizing details. These are wrought out in stone and are made still more conspicuous by being raised upon an eminence of some two or three feet, which forms the base of the singular monument erected to himself by some one whose name is duly inscribed on a tablet below, but which has entirely escaped me in the horror excited by the grewsomeness of his taste in art. The cathedral was shown to me by a very pleasant young man who, to his honor be it recorded, not only did not expect a tip, but actually declined it when offered. And to my great and increasing surprise, the same thing occurred here in another church, that of St. Leonard's, and this episode was quite a refreshing incident in my experience.

The churches of Germany are not so universally accessible to visitors as in France, though I believe the Roman Catholic ones are always

open.

I have seen here none of that ceremonious and pompous display at funerals which is so common in France, and am told that it finds no favor in Germany. The Germans, however, have one odd custom on such occasions and that is the heading of the funeral train by a woman whom they style the Toten-Frau, or "Death-Woman," whose office it is to prepare the body for the grave, and then clad in black, with long streamers from her sable cap, and with as many of the funeral garlands as she can carry, to march in front of the procession,—which is not made up, as with us, of a line of carriages, but simply an open hearse having canopy but no sides,—followed by men walking in couples. With the exception of the Toten-Frau, no woman takes part in German obsequies, so far as I have been able to ascertain.

Frankfort has many modern public buildings of a noble and majestic order of architecture; especially may be noted the New Exchange, the General Post-Office, and the Grand Opera House. The Central Railway Station is a magnificent and artistic edifice costing, I am told, the sum of thirty-five million marks, or more than eight million dollars.

There are also some remaining specimens of

the beautiful timber architecture of the middle ages, of which the Roemer, or city-hall, is a remarkably handsome and interesting example, with decorations of marvelous variety and finish. The great festal-hall within, alluded to in the poem, is truly a splendid chamber.

Goethe was born in Frankfort and his birthplace, a substantial structure of three stories. having dormer windows and a pointed gable having two stories more, has been thoroughly restored and is carefully preserved by the

Frankforters.

One especially odd building stands at the corner of the Eschenheimer street; it is call Zum Kaiser Karl, or "The Emperor Charles." from the fact that Charles VII. lived in a house on the same site in 1742-3 and -4. The present edifice is not at all modern. The outside is adorned with allegorical figures representing pride, laziness, envy, avarice, intemperance, voluptuousness, and anger; also the virtues of charity, husbandry, valour, love, industry and honesty; further supplemented by illustrations of the domestic labors of the days of the week. heads of these figures are particularly grotesque, and from this fact the house is called the Fratzeneck, or "grimaces-corner."

The streets of Frankfort, however, though usually well built, are not so pleasing as in many other places. The location is unfavorable to picturesque vistas, and as a rule there is too little variety in architecture. One of the finest and most important avenues is called the Zeil.

Like most German towns, Frankfort has a delightful wooded park and numerous monuments to public men and events. The Gutenburg memorial commemorative of the invention of printing, is perhaps the most imposing of the

latter.

The year 1866, diastrous to the fortunes of so many German provinces, terminated the independence of Frankfort and led to its annexation to Prussia. It evidently has no reason to regret its change of dynasty, and keeps on the even tenor of its way, a busy and prosperous city.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

A run of two or three hours from Frankfort, through scenery gradually changing from a monotonous level to diversified heights of rare beauty, brings the traveler to that famous old town apostrophized so long ago by the German poet as:

"Old Heidelberg, thou beauty, With many honors crowned, Along the Rhine or Neckar, No town like thee is found."

The location is indeed charming; the little city lies at the foot of the lofty elevation from which the place takes its name, and upon the margin of the fine river Neckar which winds

gently through this fertile valley.

The objective point of interest to the sightseer here, is the massive old castle towering aloft in ruined majesty upon the precipitous well-wooded hill called the Jettenbuehl. Diverse have been the fortunes of the old pile, since Rudolph I, built the most ancient part in 1204. In the Thirty Years War, the old structure suffered so much that it was rendered absolutely uninhabitable; it was restored and fortified anew in 1649, only to be repeatedly blown up and pulled down by the French in the Orleans War, as fast as the breaches were repaired. After this war, the castle was again in a measure restored, when in 1764 it was struck by lightning and the whole interior fell a sacrifice to the flames. Since then no further restorations have been attempted, but from 1830, the greatest care has been exercised to preserve the ruins from further decay.

The easiest and quickest way to ascend the mountain, is by funicular railway, though it is rather trying to susceptible nerves, the grade being so remarkably steep and the line passing through so many tunnels of inky darkness.

On this hill there once stood an upper and a lower castle. That which is known to-day as "The Castle," is the lower structure and stands upon quite an extensive plateau about half way up the great hill. After this one had been completed, the upper castle, which was the o'der, was used as an arsenal and powder magazine till it was struck by lightning in 1537; the explosion was so terrible that not only the upper castle was almost entirely demolished, but the lower one and the town were seriously damaged. After this, the upper citadel remained forsaken until 1853, when a Molkenkuhr, or "Whey-Cure," was established at this point, the name of which has entirely superseded that of the Castle," by which the place had been always known.

From the top is seen a most splendid view; the castle ruins are particularly picturesque and have a certain desolate grandeur that is very impressive. At times the old pile is artificially illuminated and the effect from below is weirdly beautiful.

In the cellars of the lower castle lies the farfamed Heidelberg Tun of which school children learn with wonder. It is about twenty-four feet, high and thirty-three feet long and its capacity is fifty thousand, nine hundred and twenty gallons. Lying in front of it is a small tun—so called—noted for its artistic construction, being held together without hoops. Near by is a statuette representing the dwarf, Clemens Perkeo, court fool of Karl Philipp, which dwarf, tradition states, drank daily from fifteen to eighteen bottles of strong wine. On the tenth of November, 1753, the great tun was filled for the first time, and, later on, twice again. Since the great fire at the castle, it has remained empty. There was a pump fitted to it, that passed up into the banquet room, thus rendering the tun's contents easily accessible.

The vault where it lies was probably constructed for holding it, as no other one in the

castle is lofty enough to accommodate it.

A staircase leads up one side of the tun and down the other, and we tourists ascended and decended the same, dancing an extempore fandango on the top of the tremendous cask.

Another cask called the lesser Heidelberg Tun, is in another vault and holds twenty thous-

and gallons.

spiritous to things Turning from things spiritual, we visit some of the churches of Heidelberg, which are ancient but in good preservation. The Holy Ghost Church, built in 1400, was long the scene of a bitter religious strife. The reformation was begun here in 1546, by preaching the gospel and administering the sacrament in both forms; the Electoral House having turned Roman Catholic, the possession of the church was hotly contested. In 1705 it was divided by a wall, the choir having been assigned to the Romanists and the nave to the Protestants. Then the Elector told the Protestants if they would resign their claim, he would build them a new church; they refused and the Elector, to use the vernacular, "got mad" and took forcible possession of the church, pulling down the wall. The Protestants appeakd to the Diet and the wall was rebuilt. In 1886 it was pulled down again only to be put up once more in 1893

I am moved to wonder if, in all this time, they ever gave any consideration to the text: "Behold how pleasant a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Probably they did, but each one was convinced that it applied not

to himself, but to "the other fellow."

In St. Peter's Church is the tombstone of Olympia Fulvia Morata, "the most learned woman of the sixteenth century, who was warmly devoted to religion." Near this church is the old university founded in 1386 by Ruprecht the Red; this institution has flourished or declined according to the fortunes of the town. At one time its possessions on the left bank of the Rhine, were confiscated by the French, and the university was reduced to such poverty that it could not pay its professors for years. But better days dawned and in 1886 it celebrated its five-hundredth jubilee.

Heidelberg College is situated on the opposite side of the river. This institution offers special advantages for acquiring modern lan-

guages.

In the High street is an ancient structure which escaped destruction by the French when they devastated the town in 1693. This is called the Ritterhaus, (the House of the Knight,) and is now used as a hotel. It was built in 1592 by a French emigrant, and is in the style of the French renaissance. On the summit of the façade is the bust of a knight, and the busts of four Frankish kings adorn the fourth story. Between the windows of the third story are the busts of the builder and his wife, with their arms and the inscription in Latin: "Except the

Lord bless the house, the labor of the builder is vain." Between the windows of the next lower story are the busts of the builder's two children.

As this edifice is very narrow and there is no more place for likenesses, it is well that the

builder's family was no more extensive.

A handsome bridge decorated with sculptures leads from the Steingasse across to Neuen-

heim, a suburb of Heidelberg.

Lovely indeed is the view from this bridge; especially so as I saw it in the last rays of a vanishing sun on a mid-summer evening, just as the rising moon began to show its reflected splendor on the other hand. Toward the west the lingering glow of the sunset was tinting river and low-lying cloudlet, while in the east the silver gleams of the moonlight showed stronger and stronger, pouring over the dark bulk of the lofty hill and throwing out in clear relief the dismantled walls, the shattered buttresses and the gaping window-spaces of the ruined castle.

It was a romantic and enchanting scene, and I wondered not at the enthusiasm of the bard previously quoted, nor that he should

declare in closing.

"And oh! if thorns crowd thickly And life grows bleak and pale, I'll spur my steed right quickly And ride to Neckardale."

## CHAPTER XXIX.

From Heidelberg I took a brief trip into Switzerland, going first to Lucerne via Basle, that great busy junction of so many lines, with its handsome, modern station more like those of America in its appointments, than most others abroad, having many conveniences and privileges which are, alas, all extra. Almost every one changes trains at Basle, which by the way, the Germans call "Bah-zle" and the French "Bahl," thus making much confusion and perplexity for unsophisticated foreigners, as both languages are heard interchangeably through most portions of Switzerland.

We passed through Freiburg, noting its great cathedral outlined against the summer sky. We soon began to perceive en route that we were really indeed entering the marvelous land of the Alps, for towering hills began to push out into view, threatening to bar our way as we wound along the most level portions of the vale, skirting streams and frequently, to my extreme dissatisfaction, dashing through exceed-

ingly long tunnels.

The weather was enchanting, the scene constantly increased in beauty, and, when finally a succession of lakes suddenly stretched out before us, with the white-tipped mountains shining in the distance, no one in the compartment could repress an ejaculation of delight, and by the time we reached Lucerne, we were almost speechless with admiration.

Lucerne the lovely! Gifted indeed far be-

vond usual endowment, must be the pen or brush that could even in faint degree, fitly set forth its beauties. The gleaming waters of the river Reuss, so strangely green, rushing on in irresistable current surpassingly swift, through their rock-bound banks; the majestic slopes that, tree-studded and diversified by quaint towers and ramparts, by stately villas and modest cottages, rise abruptly to the feet of greater heights above; the gigantic Rigi on the left, the stupendous Pilatus on the right; while beyond and between spring still loftier eminences, snow-crowned and sun-kissed, or wreathed in misty veils, far on high; and over all, blue and beautiful, the radiant immensity of exhilarant atmosphere losing itself in the infinity of ethereal space.

Such phrases do but sketch in barest outline the salient features of the ravishing loveliness bursting upon the beholder in this enrapturing region, yet give no true conception of the wondrous whole. For the first time I admit that my native land, though it may equal, cannot excel this peerless picture, and that over the great round earth one could scarcely find a

scene so fair.

Yet, why is this? Are there not mountains otherwhere? And lakes and streams and islets fair? And charm of sun and shade and sky? Not here alone has history's page been written over and folded back; not here alone do ancient spire and tower antique rise side by side with palace new and modern cot; nor only here the gay, light-hearted, brilliant throngs, meeting, separating, shifting back and forth, like the glittering atoms of some huge kaleidoscope. How is it then that over all there seems to lie some mystic glamour so filling one's vision that one rests content to gaze, beatified as never be-

fore? Perhaps it is the blending in one broad sweep of the eyes, of all these features in their loveliness of varied charm, that so delights and enchants.

From all parts of the civilized world, come summer visitors to this beautiful spot, and many indeed are the sons and daughters of our own fair country gathered here. To all such indeed, were it a work of supererogation to dwell upon the attractions, either natural or artistic, of Lucerne; the pictures upon memory's tablets are fairer far than can be evoked by words of mine. But to her "the lone sister," who has been my inspiration in these desultory lines, and whose migrations are yet in the future, may be given perchance even in these inadequate jottings, some slight meed of pleasure or information.

The history of Lucerne dates back to 735, when was founded the convent of St Leodegar. Thrilling and momentous have been the events that gradually evolved this fine and picturesque modern city from the primitive little assemblage of fishermen's huts, once clustering about the convent walls on the banks of the river Reuss.

This magnificent river, to whose rapid flow and deep green tint I have already alluded, runs directly through the wealthy and fashionable portion of the place, from the Lake of Four Cantons along the banks of which the city spreads out continuing lines. The shores of the stream are built up with solid masonry, forming a broad and elegant promenade, or quay on both sides, protected by iron railings and set out in lovely chestnut trees. All along this boulevard is a succession of handsome structures of most varied architecture, broad and low, as is the custom in this part of the world.

The fine railway station of cream-colored stone, with noble vestibule and imposing cupola, all spacious and well-lighted and almost spotlessly clean, first attracts one's attention, then the wonderful panorama of lake and mountain, stream and sky, ruin, rampart, cottage, villa, promenade and people, flashes upon one's gaze.

I have spoken at different times of the many grand stations in various places on the continent. and again of how unfavorably they compare with our own, and I will pause here to explain this seeming discrepancy. In general, so far as conartistic design, elegant spaciousness. tasteful decoration, beautiful grounds and almost absolute cleanliness, the stations far surpass our own; but in practical details, in convenience and comfort, in accessibility and completeness of all things necessary for the information and speeding of the average traveler, ours are far ahead. Many things that we in America take as a matter of course, such as toilet conveniences, drinking water, and so forth, may be had here, it is true, but not without money and without price, as with us.

Close to the station in Lucerne, is the fine Seebruecke, or Lake-Bridge, fifty-two feet wide and five hundred feet long, built of stone at great expense some eighteen years ago. But still more charming to one who likes to muse over relics of a by-gone age, are two quaint old bridges that have stood stretching across this rushing current for hundreds of years.

One of these, the Kapellbruecke, crossing the river diagonally, is a curious structure dating from 1333, and is built entirely of wood, which is sound and strong to-day. It is perhaps eight feet wide and is approached by a few wooden steps. The sides are inclosed to a height of

possibly three feet, and queer wooden posts at regular intervals on each side, support a pointed roof that covers the entire structure. In the triangular spaces formed by the peak of the roof and the junction of its sides with each pair of opposing posts, are fitted smooth boards upon which is painted a succession of historical pictures, queer and interesting in the extreme.

Here are depicted the heroic deeds and sufferings of the old Switzers and their patron saints, Leodegar and Maurice, from the most primitive times down to the mediæval period. Under each picture is inscribed one or more of those rhyming couplets in which the German of the Middle Ages so delighted to express himself, as I have had occasion to note before; and while the Switzer is not a German, yet there is enough similarity between the German language and his own to imbue him with much the same shade of thought and expression. The colors in the pictures are dimmed and the script nearly effaced; one must go on step by step, with eyes raised and head thrown back, in order to see them at all.

Nearly half way across in the midst of this bridge, stands an old octagonal tower. The municipal treasure was stored here in the long ago and the tower was also used as a governmental prison; it is said to have contained a torture chamber. Some authors state that this tower was a light-house in the time of the Romans, but it is more commonly believed to have formed a part of the fortifications that surrounded Lucerne in the thirteenth century.

The other old bridge, called the *Spreuer* or *Muehlenbruecke*, is a century younger than the first one. This also has paintings in the roof, old and dim but more decipherable than those first described. This series was painted in the

sixteenth century by Casper Meglinger, and represents the Dance of Death.

How this old town has changed since first these bridges spanned the rapid river. How the Lucerners themselves have changed in custom, in attire, in deed and in thought. Fancy the stern, almost savage citizen of the Middle Ages, stalking across here in his coat of mail, armed with battle-ax or two handed sword; or possibly astride his war charger also in armor, with spurs jangling and accoutrements clashing. No provision was made for the passage of a carriage, and great, no doubt, would have been his amazement had such a conveyance been even suggested to him. But they are all gone, though the bridges remain, still echoing to the tread of busy feet as in centuries past.

Every means for the enjoyment and entertainment of visitors seems to have been supplied by nature and skill in this region. A landscape of infinite variety, mountain, forest, vale, meadow, lake and stream, a bracing yet genial atmosphere, sun and shade in pleasing contrast, lovely drives and devious foot-paths leading through bosky dells and leafy glens at every hand; while train, steamer, gondola and skiff glide back and forth, ready to convey to greater distances,

through scenes of equal beauty.

Should skies prove unkind or should, at times, even the worship of lovely nature become too great a strain, one may turn for change and recreation to the fine library and reading-room, to the great museum, to the interesting churches, to the vast cathedral with its daily sacred concert, to the many theaters, exhibitions and so forth, or to the mediæval remnants of another day and generation.

A singular feature in the landscape at Lu-

cerne, is the Musegg, an irregular line of gray ramparts on the heights above the town, where nine old watch towers rise up at intervals, their antique architecture and the uncertainty hanging-over their exact origin and purpose, combining to invest all with a peculiar, romantic interest.

On an eminence to the west of the city, above the dwellings dotting the slope and the woods in the background, may be seen a commodious edifice with a slender and elegant turret. This is the famous Goetsch, whereon is a summer hotel and pleasure-garden. One reaches this point easiest by a miniature funicular railway, five hundred and ninety-one feet long, of which the motive power is water. The gradient is fifty-three yards in one hundred.

Although the Goetsch is only a hill in this land of mountains, yet it commands a surprisingly fine view of the picturesque city on the Reuss at its feet, and of the lake as far back as the huge bulk of the Rigi and of the Burgenstock; above which the Alps of the Unterwalden, with the snowy dome of mighty Titlis conspicuously visible, pierce the southern sky. A skilful arrangement of great mirrors in the large reception salon of the Goetsch, overlooking the view, duplicates the wonderful prospect with a bewildering effect of vastness.

With such a wealth of material on every side, from which one must cull but a few specimens to represent the magnificent whole, one becomes confused in trying to make a, in any wise, satisfactory selection, wavering here and there between this point and that, and possibly at last leaves unnoted some most characteristic feature or scene.

Fain would I dwell on the historic interest

and esthetic details of the great Hof-Kirche, on the imposing architecture of the Post and Telegraph Office, the impressive style of the Kurhaus, or the graceful outlines of the Government Building, the Museum, the Town Hall and so forth, and above all, on their harmonious relation to each other and to their environment in general; but all these triumphs of the builder's art, while adding as they do to the diversified charm of this entrancing spot, are yet so cast into insignificance by the grandeur and beauty of their natural setting, that one passes them with a cursory glance as the eyes rove onward from the fair fields and forests sloping upward from the gleaming waters, to the majestic masses of emerald declivity or somber crag or snowy peak, shouldering against the blue empyrean.

Among all these beauties there are a few of special, local interest, which one should not fail to visit; one of these is the romantic nook con-

taining the famous "Lion of Lucerne."

This monument sculptured by Ahorn in 1821, from the solid rock, after a model by Thorwaldsen,—which model, by the way, is to be seen in a little curio-shop across the road,—commemorates the desperate struggle of the Swiss guards before the Tuileries, under the onslaught of the Jacobins, August 10, 1792. After a most heroic resistance, two battalions were overpowered by the revolutionists, and on the second and third of September, the remainder also fell at their post.

A winding way leads on through wide cheerful streets and leafy avenues, up a gentle ascent to a secluded dell where, in the shade of noble trees, behind a miniature sheet of water, rises a perpendicular rock sixty feet in height. In the midst of a great recess hollowed out from these granite walls, prone upon a shield and spear and battle-axe, lies a wounded lion of gigantic proportions, defending even in death the charge intrusted to him. Graven above, is the brief legend: "Helvetiorum fidei ac virtute," and below, the names of the officers with the date of the tragic event. There is a dignity and repose about this majestic composition, that seems to proclaim the ineffable though intangible recompense of brave deeds nobly done, even unto death.

With a gravity engendered by the contemplation of this artistic memorial with its multitudinous suggestions as to man's mighty possibilities in his highest exaltation of moral and physical courage, one turns to follow the little path

that goes meandering on.

Almost at once, one's reflections are transferred from the achievements of art and the powers of man, to the mysteries of the universe; for within a few yards one comes upon an unique spectacle called "The Glacier Garden." is a very interesting natural phenomenon consisting of nine "pot-holes,"-so named,-of an ancient glacier. They were discovered by accident in 1872, when excavating for the foundations of a building. The largest of these holes is twenty-six feet in diameter and thirty-one feet deep. They are supposed to have been hollowed out in pre-historic times, by the action of the glacier then extending through this district. The water that found its way through the fissures of the ice, imparted a rotary motion to the stones also finding their way down through the crevices, and in course of time these stones, grinding around upon the rock beneath, formed these circular "pot-holes," in which the stones

were left as the glacier receded. There are many wonderful objects, natural and manufactured, in this garden, but this exposition of the stupendous forces of nature, silent, slow, but irresistible, working away from the dim ages of the past, is most curious and remarkable.

The summer evening was well advanced when I left this interesting spot and retraced my steps over the pleasant route along which I had come.

The streets lay picturesque and peaceful in the luminous twilight, the way growing brighter and more brilliant as I neared the broad quay, where the electric lights were flashing and quivering through the tremulous foliage of the stately chesnuts rustling in the cool, lake breeze.

From out the elegant gardens of the splendid hostelries, fair with perfumed leaf and vivid blossom, rolled forth most witching strains of jocund melody, while on the quay joyous groups, assembled from every clime, kept step in con-

cord with the pulsing cadences.

Beyond the low parapet, the lake was rippling and sparkling in the rays of the mellow moon riding afar in the illimitable sky; the snow-capped peaks were gleaming on high in a beauty of heavenly purity, while, dotted with glittering points from cotter's candle or luxury's lamp, the shadows lay heavy on the hillsides below.

Gay gondolas were gliding hither and yon, their colored lanterns making stars of fire, that glowed again from the bosom of the waters.

My path lay onward across the handsome Seebruecke, down along the riverside, beneath whispering trees and past plashing fountains, to a quiet inn, from the windows of which, as I sank to slumber, my eyes looked out upon the rugged bulk of grim Pilatus standing stern sentinel immovable forever, above the magic beauty and bewildering charm of lake-layed Lucerne.

## CHAPTER XXX.

Chief among the many delightful excursions possible from the romantic city of Lucerne, is, perhaps, a tour of the lovely sheet of water commonly known as Lake Lucerne, otherwise the Lake of Four Cantons, or the Vierwaldstaetter See.

Indissolubly associated with this vicinity and recalled at once by its name, is the history, traditional or otherwise, of William Tell, whose heroic deeds gleam forth so brilliantly from this marvelous setting, in the radiance of Schiller's immortal genius.

It was a charming day in mid-summer that I stepped aboard the elegant little steamer that daily makes the round of this grandly picturesque lake, and settled myself for a period of uninterrupted inspection of this renowned "treasure-

house of natural beauties."

The attractive little vessel was filled with a happy, animated throng, and accents of diverse nationalities fell upon the ear as we steamed

away from the wide quay.

At the very outset one is entranced by the aspect of the little harbor itself, with its gardens, its villas and its ancient towers lying back on, and rising from the verdant slopes, and climbing the steeper sides of the great hills and promontories that intervene between the beryline waters of the broad bay and the huge mountains in the farther distance.

As we glide out into the lake, the view continually changes and, as one grand and dazzling peak falls back or presents to us a new angle of observation, we get glimpses of other still more stupendous elevations; while across the gleaming tide, transiently visible above a depression in the high outline of the nearer crags, the monarchs of the Bernese Oberland, Lauterhorn, Wetterhorn, Schreckerhorn and the peerless Jungfrau etched sharply above in icy splendor, move for a brief moment into our field of vision.

The small isle of Alstad with tiny châlet peeping forth from shades of living green, lies almost in our path as we round the Meggerhorn and enter the Kreuzrichter where we find ourselves in the spacious expanse formed by the meeting of the lake's four great arms; each of which, having its own fair quota of matchless landscape, reaches off in the distance. Kussnacht to the north to where the narrow, wooded isthmus divides from Lake Zug; Alphacht to the south flowing on past the base of gigantic Pilatus; behind us to the west, the shining stretch over which we have come; while eastward, Weggis spreads out before us until some slight change in our direction, brings us abreast of a range of mighty precipices that seem to bar our progress completely. But the little boat is undismayed and skilfully feels its way along the threatening shores, and lo! a silvery channel opens out again and we wind on amid untellable delights.

The area of Lake Lucerne is about forty-four square miles; its surface is fourteen hundred and thirty-two feet above sea-level; its greatest length, from Lucerne to Fluelen, twenty-three and one half miles and greatest width a little

more than two and one half.

While partial freezing has taken place at irregular intervals, the congealing of its entire

expanse is unrecorded either by history or tradition. The banks of the lake display a remarkable diversity of character. Some anonymous writer has said: -- "Here the boundary is the broad end of an Alpine valley; yonder it is a steep precipice rising from the very margin of the waters; elsewhere it is an expanse of grassy meadow-land affording pasturage to numerous herds of sleek cattle, and planted with row upon row of thriving fruit-trees. At the point where the larger valleys open, the eye penetrates to the mountain heights some of which are carpeted with rich pastures and dotted with châlets, while others appear rocky and barren, and yet others loftiest of all, display their spotless vesture of eternal snow."

But it matters not what phase of prospect is presented; for whether bounded by mighty bluffs and cragged cliffs close at hand, or stretching back into the woodland shades and smiling loveliness of pastoral scenes, or rising aloft in dizzy heights of unapproachable grandeur, it entrances the imagination and dominates the soul by alternating sublimity and romance, magnificence and unutterable charm.

All along, sheltered from rough winds, embowered in groves and vines, and almost within stone's throw of one another, nestle quaint little villages, picturesque and cheerful; while scattered everywhere from the water's edge to dizzying heights, rise villas, cottages, pensions, restaurants, hotels and so forth, in often appar-

ently inaccessible locations.

And now we go on under the shadow of the huge Rigi and its mighty neighbors standing together in everlasting majesty. A bright ray of sunshine picks out and glows back from a lofty crag of vivid red, that towers far above the

small village of Vitznau charmingly set out

against a background of somber green.

As in a dream of delight we go on and on and on. Again the waters narrow before us as we approach two great precipices which leave us no visible means of egress; but another dextrous shift of our wise little vessel, and we pass between the opposing promontories called *Die Nasen*, (The Noses,) which are separated here by a distance of less than a thousand yards.

After this we reach Gersau with its bulky mountain rearing its proud crest above, and make our way out again from the little port so shut in by rocky walls, past the romantic chapel Klindlmord, that has for uncounted years lifted its quaint turret here to the changeful sky.

And now so stupendous a spectacle bursts upon the vision, that the average mind sinks down aghast, realizing that nothing but the sublimity of genius should venture to portray the sublimity of nature. Here in one mighty panorama, opens one of the grandest of Alpine landscapes, disclosing the wondrous eminences of the Schwytz, with the frightful steeps and naked summit of the Mythen towering in the background. Here as before, on every hand rise wooded height and rugged rock, with cot and villa, châlet and pension, dotted all abroad on shady slope or sunny elevation, until far above, imposing pinnacles and frowning crags loom inaccessible; and over all and pervading all with its mingled charm of sun and sea and sky and shore, the radiant, indefinable atmosphere of summer Switzerland.

Each picture presenting itself as our craft turns and winds through the sea-green waves, seems fairer, grander, more sublime than aught before. The soul aches with a pervading pain of dumb and awful admiration.

Now we round a seemingly impassable barrier and turn into a quiet little harbor where a curving pier stretches out into the still waters. There is no village here in view, only an antique and venerable inn call the Trieb, whose high-peaked roof, projecting stories and exterior decorations are all along the lines of the wonderful timber architecture of central Germany. This old edifice is largely identified with the actual and legendary history of these shores. It rests partly on piers in the lake, and partly on the solid rock of the bank, and stands embosomed in forest trees and decked with velvet moss, under the overhanging bastions of the eternal hills; the soft, natural grays of its roof and walls, blending harmoniously into the dull greens and browns of its umbrageous nest.

Around the next headland not far from here, we note a pyramidal rock rising abruptly from the lake; divided but by an exceedingly narrow channel from the perpendicular cliff behind. Of a whitish tint, it stands out distinctly above the heaving waves and presents to the beholder its unchanging face, upon which is graven an inscription in honor of Schiller. A fitting monument, in its immutability amid the billowy waters foaming about its everlasting base, to the great poet whose undying verse has so perpetuated the glories of Switzerland and her band of

heroes.

Still passing from one romantic and interesting point to another, still crossing and re-crossing the crystal sea as one or another of the tiny villages presents itself on either side, we reach Brunnen situated in the midst of verdure, with pretty promenades and public grounds, and consecrated by its souvenirs of the Rise of the Swiss Confederation; and now we enter upon

the last branch of the lake, a beautiful basin shut in by rocky banks and stupendous mountains.

On the right, high above, stretched beneath the walls of still loftier overhanging crags, lies the Ruetli, a steep meadow surrounded by This is the most sacred spot in stately trees. Switzerland and celebrated in song and story, for here on November seventh, 1307, Fuerst of Uri, Stauffacher of Schwytz and Anderhalden of Unterwald, each backed by a few devoted adherents, formed a league in the name of their cantons, against the despotic rule of Austria. Schiller makes thrilling use of the dramatic elements of this episode in his great work. The Ruetli is regarded as a national place of pilgrimage and every year is visited by processions of schools and societies of all descriptions. Peaceful and secluded it looks, far above our heads, accessibly only by a rocky pathway through the tangled groves.

The view from this point onward seems to increase, if possible, in beauty and grandeur. On the left appear the granite heights of Ober-and Nieder-Bauenstock, and yet these are almost dwarfed by the imposing immensity of massive Urirothstock rising like some vast citadel from the lake below to the clouds above, where its snowy summit towers impregnable. Still we make our way over the clear waters that reflect so vividly the picturesque hamlets and blooming terraces coming into view wherever the stony walls recede enough to grant a few acres of foot-We leave Sisikon and Bauen and Isleton behind us, reaching Tellsplatte, the spot where Tell is said to have escaped from the tyrant's boat. The chapel bearing Tell's name stands close to the water's edge and is visited every

year by the country people in solemn processional. How the present vanishes and the intervening centuries roll away from one's consciousness, as one gazes upon the diminutive temple with its unpretending walls and modest spire hidden from view by rocks and twining shrubbery, except at the water-front, from which its few steps ascend immediately into the plain little portico. Above rises magnificent Axenfluh flanked by sky-piercing Urirothstock, while straight before us, the pyramid of jagged Bristenstock lifts up its lofty brow. Beautiful Seelisberg and mighty Fronalpstock greet us anew from the other side, looking down from the remoter distance; while all about and everywhere are new vistas of enchantment, until at last we reach Fluelen where the boat pauses for an hour or so before starting on its homeward journey.

There is a wonderful carriage-road, wide and hard, from Weggis to Fluelen, which is thought by many to surpass in variety and grandeur of natural scenery, any other highway in the world. Lying along the lake and following its changeful and meandering contour, it winds on, now skirting sunny meadows, now penetrating leafy shades or rounding giddy precipices, now drilled in archways through solid rock. It is divided into four sections, the first of which stretches along through a delightful series of green pastures, beautiful groves and charming lake aspects; the second and third are more romantic, commanding the banks of the Weggis and Brunnen basins, and presenting witching glimpses of the Rigi, the Urmiberg, the Mythen, the Seelisberg and many others; while the last section is the celebrated Axenstrasse, leading along the east shore from Brunnen to Fluelen, and forming a part of a system of mountain highways constructed by the Swiss government

many years ago.

The St. Gothard railway is also visible at times along these shores but disappears into the depths of every huge hill. All along here. picturesqueness again rises to grandeur beauty to sublimity, and once more words fail to convey an idea of the ravishing scene. limpid lake with its emerald tinge; the varying green of groves and gardens fair in the distance; strangely grotesque rising far above; dimly lighted tunnels with openings here and there through which renewed glimpses caught of mountain and lake and wonderful views of the distant Alps; while every place is replete with souvenirs of the ancient heroes of Switzerland.

From Fluelen one may return to Lucerne by railway, if preferring a change of route. Of this privilege I now availed myself, plunging into fresh beauties as well as looking on former ones from another equally bewildering point of view.

Snowy summits, awful abysses, emerald slopes, ragged rocks, sparkling waters, luxuriant meadows, barren crags, fertile valleys, gay watering-places, woodland heights, handsome stations, trim terraces, picturesque châlets, cosy farm houses, elegant villas, wonderful bridges and inky tunnels are all whirled about through my mind in inextricable confusion, as I step from the train and seek the seclusion of my modest inn.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

To the ascending of mountains by railway in this era of marvelous engineering and enterprise, there is no end; but it is not so very long ago, in fact I believe but forty years, since the system that has made this variety of excursion feasible and safe, was provided to the world. To the United States, records say, belongs the honor of having given birth to the man whose peculiar genius "evolved from his inner consciousness," this unique method that has proved so adaptable in scaling tremendous heights.

It was in 1858 that Sylvester Marsh, of Littleton, New Hampshire, received a charter to practically apply his ingenious mechanism to the ascent of Mount Washington. That road was finished in 1869, that of the Rigi in 1871, and since then their name is legion both in our own

country and abroad.

Though both in America and in the old world, there are peaks more lofty and mountains more supendous than the Rigi yet this has a distinctive charm in its wonderful situation between three lakes,—rising abruptly from their very margins,—and the incomparable scenery, of which its own magnificent loveliness is but a fragmentary portion; and it has the additional advantage of being accessible from either side, so that the necessity of doubling back to any great extent upon one's route is avoided, and in one trip is combined a surprising variety of outlook.

There are a number of footways up the Rigi; from every steamboat landing as well as from every St. Gothard railway station in the vicinity, is a well-defined path, each of which is thronged with hardy and ambitious pedestrians pressing onward to the heights above. There are also three railway routes, of which the Vitznau-Rigi is the oldest and perhaps the most comprehensive.

The skies were fair and the waters sparkling as we left Lucerne on the small vessel that plies

between that city and Vitznau.

After a run of less than an hour we arrived, and disembarking, crossed the picture-like little *Platz* to the railway station. Here we found our observation car arranged with nicely tilted seats inclined in just the requisite degree to keep us on a level up the great slope, and our ungainly locomotive, ponderous and panting, all ready to begin the powerful push that was to send us steadily on our way heavenward for thousands of feet. As is customary in such ascents, but one car was given to each engine.

Contrary to our previous mountain experience, we find every pound of luggage must be weighed And I may mention here that a and paid for. lady traveling alone in Switzerland is at much disadvantage regarding her hand-luggage, for porters are not allowed, even by paying a gate fee, to enter the trains, and, the carriages being set up on high wheels and en ered from the end platforms, like ours in America, it is impossible for her to avoid lifting and handling her impedimenta herself. She must either receive her property from the porter at the outer steps and lug it into the car, or else through the window from the inside; and in either case must heave them herself up into the high receptacles overhead, as the cars are too small and the available space too contracted to admit of their being placed elsewhere. Many foreigners, noting the difference between Swiss cars and the ordinary continental carriage, fancy that the former are like American cars; they do resemble the latter somewhat on the outside, being entered from the ends and set up on high trucks, though thev lack utterly the finish of our railway coaches; but the Swiss car is much smaller than ours, and the interior is very different. True the passage runs lengthwise instead of across the carriage, but it is very narrow and, instead of running through the middle and dividing the car in halves, it is nearer one side than the other, leaving on the one hand, space for a row of small, single seats, and on the other, a row of double ones; and, while the carriage is not divided off into closed compartments, it is divided by breast high partitions between each set of opposing seats, though there are no doors within; the whole arrangement is close and inconvenient, though a vast improvement on the compulsory confinement system in other parts of Europe.

The car that we enter to-day, however, specially adapted to mountain travel. is exactly like a large, open street-car, with three exceptions; first, its "up-tiltedness;" second, gates at the two ends of every two opposite rows of seats or benches that run quite across the car from side to side; and third, a small compartment in the rear, wherein our luggage, reduced to the smallest possible compass, is stowed away.

We are an animated and expectant party from almost all quarters of the globe; diverse and polyglot are the accents that greet the ear. Let not my 'lone sister' be dismayed; she will probably hear her native tongue; if not she has only to show her ticket and point to her luggage, and a railway porter will take her in charge with safety. But lest she may picture in her "mind's eye" something akin to the trim-uniformed train men of our lines, I will say that the continental porter wears the unmistakable garb of a laboring man, and either upon his cap or upon a chain about his neck, he bears a huge metal number, which it is well to take cognizance of, for future recollection in case anything goes wrong. However, they are usually very civil and anxious to please; the fee must be paid by the traveler as, though the porters are licensed they are not recompensed by the railwav.

In our motley throng, cycling costumes mainly more serviceable than elegant prevail, though no wheels are in evidence; several tourists are supplied with sturdy but unmanageable alpenstocks, that stick out in all directions and

get into everybody's way.

We are soon in motion, beginning to ascend almost from the very verge of the waters, and at once leaving behind us the charming village lying so snugly in its cosy nooks and angles

against the mountain side.

Rushing upward through chesnut groves, we dash into a murky tunnel, then over a wildly romantic bridge of skilful but terrifying construction, and pause for a moment at Freibergen Station, thirty-three hundred feet above sea level. From this point on, the scene is all one bewildering vision of beauty unutterable. The lake drops away from us like a falling mirror; gazing downward at our left, we see its glittering surface sinking lower and lower, as we mount the dizzy elevations between which and

the shining depths below, nothing whatever is visible to indicate that we are otherwise than poised without support in this realm of light and radiance through which we are speeding.

A glance toward our right scarcely reassures us, for here close at hand, less than an arm's length from the side of the car, impregnable battlements of everlasting rock tower straight upward, upon the perpendicular surfaces of which, no slightest foot-hold or hand-clutch were possible even in the direct emergency. But the incomparable grandeur and splendor of our position serves to engulf all thoughts of mortal risk, and we breathe into our very souls a spirit

of magic enchantment.

Now the outlook changes; mountains begin to show their crests around within our range of view; we swerve away from the dizzy verge as the crowding crags fall back, while our eyes, but this moment gazing abroad into apparently illimitable space, now rest on emerald slope and wide plateau, with terrace on terrace of vivid bloom and verdure reaching back to the confines of a park-like forest. Here is situated the farfamed sanitarium of Rigi-Kaltbad, adjacent to which are some of the loveliest views from the Rigi. At this point another mountain-route meets our line and some of our passengers leave us, disappearing round the curves that lead to the great hotels in that direction. We who remain, continue in our upward course through rocky cuttings, over frightful trestles round giddy precipices, through bosky shades, up and up and ever up, until after an interval, as we come to the fine Hotel Staffel, there all at once opens before us the immense prospect of the wondrous hill-country of northeast Switzerland, lovely, magnificent, infinite.

Still onward, higher and higher, toward the summit far above; while advancing, receding, ever changing but ever entrancing, appear and vanish the contrasting beauties of the marvelous outlook.

Vista after vista opens out, falls back and fades beneath us, until at last we find ourselves at the summit, where, a little below the rounded grassy top, stands the imposing Hotel Rigi-Kulm.

Now verily do the limitations of language press sore upon us as we look abroad on the overpowering grandeur of the prospect. words indeed can depict with justice, a landscape more than two hundred miles in diameter? Here the undulating, ever varied hill-country toward the north; yonder the Black Forest and the Vosges Mountains stretching onward; in the middle ground, lake after lake in limpid lovelimess reflecting back fair heaven and wooded height; while far away to the southward, glittering in snowy splendor, sublime and unsullied as in creation's dawn, rises range after range of towering pinnacles, silent, majestic, immovable save by the same almighty force that placed them there in awful magnitude, eternal, "rockribbed and ancient as the sun."

River courses wind beneath us, and meandering roads, like lengths of ribbon as they wander away; fair meadow-lands stretch onward and white towns and villages shine forth from leafy recesses; while on the Rigi itself and forming a part of its mighty bulk, are rock and ridge, declivity and dale, fertile plain and barren crag, bowery dell, gleaming cascade, mountain rill, rich pastures and picturesque structures, all enveloped in one bewitching haze of ineffable love-

liness.

It is impossible to drink one's fill of the glor-

ious scene, and we turn aside exhausted yet unsatisfied. But as our eyes drop from all this splendor of natural beauty and fall at last to things at hand and lying literally at our feet, we begin to note what a diversified little world it is here immediately about us, on the small,

irregular plateau.

First and foremost is the great hotel with its spacious verandas, glittering windows and wide corridors. A little removed from this are two or three other roomy edifices for accommodating the "overflow" in the busy season. Around a little bluff where the path turns to reach the extreme summit, stands a Post-Office, diminutive indeed but complete in all modern requirements, including telegraph, telephone and supplies of stationery and picture postal-cards. Just below the hotel and reached by a long flight of steps, is the neat little station of the railway terminus.

Following the path to the upper plateau, we suddenly find ourselves in the midst of a miniature, open-air bazar, for a dozen or more knicknack venders have taken up their stand under spreading, cream-colored umbrellas,—for there are no trees at this height,—which shelter themselves and their collections. Here trinkets of all descriptions pertaining to the Alpine region, are to be found at not exorbitant prices, pictures, curios, geological and floral specimens and so forth, while interested purchasers are gathered about in shifting groups.

For the first time the widely famed *Edelweiss* comes under our observation, being offered for sale in profusion with Alpine roses, so called. There is no chaffering and the dealers are re-

spectful and quiet.

Men, women and children of confusingly di-

verse sorts and conditions, wander hither and yon, or stand entranced, rapt in the glorious

prospect abroad.

A group of Alpine singers, male and female, in picturesque, peasant costumes, have made the ascent on foot from some one of the neighboring hamlets, and are now refreshing themselves with beer and black bread in the clear sunshine, occasionally bursting into fragments of song, or the melodious, far reaching jodel of the Swiss mountaineer.

All this busy exhibition of life on a small scale, seems so very strange up here on the open mountain-top, under the near, blue sky amid the grandeur of the Alps, and brings us down at once from the boundless realms of imagination and of infinite space, to human associations and human interests. And so, inspecting the curious wares and motley groups, we while away a little time before withdrawing into the huge caravansary for food and repose.

One does not find such unvarying exorbitant charges throughout the country at places of re-

sort in Europe, as we have at home.

True, one can spend any amount of money if one feels no special limitation, but there is at the same time, at all these resorts a scale of prices suited to travelers of moderate means, providing sufficient and satisfactory service and entertainment at comparatively small outlay. Our foreign brothers seem to recognize the fact that every one, even among travelers, is not a Cræsus, and to look out for the accommodation of such, also. I must confess, however, if they know that one is an American, it is very hard for them to realize that one is not necessarily, a millionaire, so ingrained is it into the consciousness of other peoples, that "all Americans are rich."

In descending the Rigi, we followed the Arth-Goldau route, which branches off from the Rigi-Kulm section at Rigi-Staffel, a short distance below.

Another panorama of indescribable grandeur and not less impressive and imposing than that seen from the other side, is spread out before us as we gradually go down through magnificent Alpine pastures and shadowy fir groves, to our first halting-place below the junction. This is the Rigi-Klosterli, the most sheltered place on the mountain. Here are two grand hotels, several less pretentious inns and a picturesque old pilgrimage-chapel; also a Capuchin hospice, a somewhat peculiar institution, being a sort of conventual hostelry devoted to the entertainment of travelers. We are told that this point is most popular with persons desiring to make a prolonged stay upon the mountain.

Off again and down, down through scenery of wildly romantic character, from the midst of which we command an extensive view of the

Schwytz and the Eastern Alps.

Now we hug the rocky side of a deep ravine, the abysmal depths of which our vision cannot penetrate; now we cross marvelous bridges and horrifying trestles and plunge into long tunnels, still winding ever down and down and down.

By degrees the landscape loses its expansive sweep; we begin to be shut in again by the nearer hills, and the pleasant valley of the Arth becomes prominent as, studded with fertile farms, flourishing fruit-trees and rustic dwellings, it stretches beyond the important station of Goldau, where the mountain railway terminates on this side.

One might remain weeks upon the Rigi without exhausting its countless resources and astonishing variety of land and water scapes. The Rigi-Kulm, five thousand, nine hundred and five feet above the sea, is the highest point. The Rigi-Scheidegg—for all these various points are but different pinnacles of the one vast mountain,—is five thousand, four hundred and six feet in elevation. At this spot is a "view-tower," one hundred feet high, where one might pass hours observing the magnificent prospect and "paying one's tribute to the majesty of the universe." Here too is an "Alpine-Garden," or experiment station, where trials are made in the cultivation of Alpine fodder-plants and forest trees.

The Rigi-Hochfluh is five thousand, five hundred and eighty-four feet high. This is the most southern summit of the mountain and is perhaps the most fantastic in character. This ascent, which can only be made on foot, leads past grotesque formations and through a fir forest, up a steep and stony defile, where only by an iron ladder fixed into the solid rock, can one mount to the bold and barren summit.

One feature through all this region, especially striking to an American coming from a land whose mountains are sparsely settled, if at all, and where an air of bleak desolation pervades the upper heights, is the number and contiguity of villages, hamlets, châlets, villas and farmhouses everywhere visible in all directions, high and low, over the mountains; so that the sweet, familiar sounds of rural domestic life, the laugh of children, the low of cattle, the bleat of lambs, the shrill clarion of chanticleers, fall continually upon the ear, and all the peaceful avocations of life are seen to go on amid a lofty environment unsurpassed in beauty and sublimity.

The Rigi itself, though so rich in its infinite variety of scene, is yet but one of the countless

stately and mighty monarchs that lift their proud and beautiful heads above the shining waters at their feet. Gazing at them as a whole, they form a circling chain of such matchless loveliness and majesty so far beyond the flights of the imagination, that the reverent spirit is inevitably lifted above the cloud-capped peaks, beyond the radiant atmosphere, "up through nature to nature's God.

### CHAPTER XXXII.

With comparatively but a glimpse and a tast e of the delights of Switzerland, I tore myself away from the enrapturing locality of the *Vierwaldstætter See*, taking the St. Gothard line at Goldau.

This is a very important railway junction and a bustling town, reminding me in a way of some of the new "cities" of our far west, where a large amount of business is transacted sometimes, before the necessary buildings and facilities for properly carrying it on, are much more than in embryo. Carpenters, masons, diggers and hewers were at work all about, and we had to step over and around many obstructions and across many unprotected tracks,—a state of things very unusual abroad,—in passing from one railway station to another.

Goldau is the place where, in 1806, a tremendous landslip fell from off the Rossberg, burying in its débris nearly five hundred persons with all

their belongings.

As our train moves off, our way lies through a wild confusion of rocky fragments and overturned strata, which have lain here ever since their descent into the valley, all undisturbed except so far as needful to construct the railways now lying through the area.

Some one has said that the St. Gothard rail, way is the great international highway between north and south, a commercial route comparable to the Suez Canal or the Straits of Gibralter. The impressionable traveler

will not be content with only this point of view, for it is also a highway of most remarkable and magnificent spectacles, both of natural scenery and of engineering achievements.

My way lies but a short distance over this route, but even in this brief stretch, dark tunnels and deep cuttings continually alternate with open reaches affording successive vistas of great heights beyond, of mighty chasms spanned by marvelous trestles and bridges, and of all possible variations in prospect, from simple beauty up to awful grandeur.

Between Goldau and Walchwyl we find yellow circulars distributed profusely about our seats. Taking one up I translate as follows:

### WARNING! WARNING! WARNING!

"The Iron Columns of the in-construction-un-dertaken St. Andrienbridge between Walchwyl and Goldau, come so near to the Wagons of the through-riding Trains to stand, that by only some Forth-out-bowing of the Over-body out of the Wagon Windows upon the Lakeside, Damages infallibly are. The Travelers become on that account, stringently therefore warned against themselves from so questionable Places in anyhow-which-wise, lakewards to the Wagon Windows forth-out-to-lean.

"The Direction of the Gothard-Road."

Glancing farther down I find the warning repeated in Italian, in French and finally in English, with a somewhat freer rendering than mine given above. I wonder if every train in every direction has every seat in every compartment of every carriage, filled with these slips every day; and if so, what the printer's bill of the 'Direction' amounts to in the course of a few centuries. However, it is kind of the di-

rectors to strive to prevent us from "forth-out-bowing," and we all keep our "Over-bodies" very erect as we speed over the great bridge.

As I am now bound for Zurich, I change lines at Zug, a romantic looking town beautifully situated on its mountain-inclosed lake of the same name, and known from its quaint towers and ancient fortifications as the "Nuremburg of Switzerland." A long ridge of considerable elevation called the Zugerberg, is a noticeable feature of the place, affording an exceedingly varied and pleasant opportunity for excursions either on foot or en voiture, as the French say. By the way, one never knows in this region, whether one will be accosted in French or in German, which rather serves to keep the not over-proficient linguist in a "tenter-hooky" condition as he strives to have immediately available an assortment of pertinent phrases in both languages. We have gone back to French money also, to my great confusion, as I have for so many weeks, in my struggle with marks and pfennige, put behind me all thoughts of francs and centimes. The functionaries will take your German gold and give you change in French silver but, as a rule, the silver and copper of Germany are refused. Occasionally I find an amiable Dienstmann or porteur,-you never know which he is going to style himself,—who does not object to German change, so I go about with two purses, one French, the other German, and adapt the "nationality," so to speak, of my disbursements to the requirements of him who serves me.

Our train is crowded, for now is the height of the season and this is a most popular route. The scenery is lovely and had we not just come from the very heart of enchantment ineffable, these cliffs and slopes were inexpressibly bewitching. We rush through some tremendous tunnels, one in particular, of more than eighteen thousand feet in length. As the carriages are unlighted and we have no warning to close our windows, we find ourselves every now and then suddenly in the midst of inky darkness and sulphurous smoke that can find no outlet. Very soon "Zurich's fair waters" open out before us, the fine city lying upon the lake and the river Limmat, and bounded on the west by the river Sihl.

To properly appreciate this place, one should see it before Lucerne, otherwise Zurich suffers in comparison. But it is a very beautiful and particularly interesting city, extremely ancient in origin. It is at this point that so many relics of the pre-historic "Lake-Dwellers" of Switzerland, and have been found; the Helmhaus, an antiquarian museum, contains one of the finest collections extant, it is said, of the old pile structures excavated from the lake. But there are traces of Roman occupation here, some authorities maintain that Zurich was founded by that people, it having been the Celts who lived on the pile-structures in the water. Be that as it may, it is now a flourishing, handsome, modern town, containing, with its nine suburban districts, about seventy-five thousand inhabitants living, as my hand-book informs me, "in fifty-two hundred and seventy-six houses and forming sixteen thousand, one hundred and ninety seven families."

It is a leading city both commercially and politically and has numerous manufactures for soap, silk, cotton, paper, machinery and so forth. It is solidly built in a great variety of architec-

ture.

Churches, cathedrals, museums, asylums, institutes, theaters, hospitals, picture-galleries, schools, colleges, monuments, bridges and squares abound; and the beauty of its broad, smooth streets, its blooming gardens, leafy terraces, charming nooks and secluded courts, its fountains, ponds, river-shores and lake-fronts, its "up-to-date" and tastefully ornamental, as well as its antique and venerable structures, is very

striking.

One peculiarity in the very center of the town, is a quiet, elevated place called the Lindenhof, from which all the bustle and turmoil of a large city seems to rush away, instead of concentrating. It is studded with lime trees and offers an extensive view, unobstructed and undisturbed. This spot was the property of the Imperial Governors of Zurich and was the original Roman stronghold, or "First Quarter," of the Many coins and inscriptions of very ancient times have been found here.

Then there is the "old town," little changed for many generations, with queer, zig-zagged ways and antique edifices. One, in the narrow, crooked street, Auf Dorf, is pointed out as the former residence of a famous civic official, Hans Waldmann, who "had to die on the scaffold on account of his 'overbearance' and insolence toward his fellow-citizens whose idol he had been and who had promoted him to the high post of burgomeister." Another of the numberless instances of the Swiss hatred for and defiance of oppression in any form.

Delightful excursions are to be taken in every direction, surpassed only by those Lucerne. A miniature railway having a rollingstock of four engines and ten cars, leads up the Uetliberg, a hill to the north of the city. This line is nearly thirtythousand feet in length, with a gradient of seven per cent, so there is nothing very marvelous about this excursion in this land of tremendous heights, but the view of the vari d landscape beneath, with the distant Alps rising in mysterious beauty far beyond,

is very charming.

Prices in Zurich seem quite cheap, especially when one recalls what it costs to spend a few days at any of our popular resorts in the United States. One can hire a carriage for fifty cents an hour, or six hours for two dollars and a half: or to be driven from one point to another not exceeding a quarter of an hour in time, for sixteen cents. Framway rates in the city, two cents; from or into the suburbs, four cents. two persons, boats for one or ten an hour, sail-boat, twenty cents. At the theater a single seat in a large front box, eighty cents, which is the highest price anywhere in the house. A messenger with or without a load of less than thirty-three pounds in the city, four cents; with that weight or more, with or without a cart, eight cents. A man and cart moving furniture or cleaning house or carpets, twelve cents an hour, or one dollar a day, and so on.

In going about Zurich, one notes at occasional intervals, very odd specimens of rock, or "boulders," set up, as inquiry develops, as ornamental curiosities. Some are dark blue, others red, still others variegated, and all of most erratic conformation. They do not appertain, we are told, to the spots wherein they rest, but have been discovered at points in the vicinity of Zurich and have been brought at great expenditure of force and money, into the city and deposited—to quote a popular phrase,—"where they will do

the most good."

The Grand Central Railway Station of Zurich is magnificent and the remarkably spacious square in which it stands is a marvel of urban

beauty and artistic adornment.

With a "longing, lingering look behind," at the thriving city with its flowing river and graygreen lake at its feet, and its verdure-clad background reaching into snowy heights above, I watched it all fade in the distance and merge little by little into the less striking region about Basle, toward which converging point of multitudinous lines, I again sped. Here changing trains and resuming German money and German language, I journeyed on via Offenburg and Appemweier to Heidelberg, and thence by way of Mainz and Kastel to Wiesbaden.

### CHAPTER XXXIII.

Mainz is a fine city of ancient origin and modern improvements, and very fair was it to look upon as it lay spread out before me in the warm sunshine. I paused not, however, to enjoy its beauties nor its glories, making only a short halt between trains.

The Rhine here is broad and splendid. It is from this point that the "Rhine-journey" is usually begun, passengers for train or boat to the north, being taken by carriage through the town and across its beautiful bridge to Kastel opposite.

Thus far my way lay, so I entered the waiting vehicle with five other travelers. Three of these were a family party, father, mother and son, English, who were in great perplexity concerning their luggage, about which they conversed volubly in the language of their country.

It was impossible for me to remain ignorant of their grievances unless I had been suddenly stricken deaf, but of course, it was all none of my affair. Finally the conductor appeared demanding tickets, and there was another overflowing torrent of speech turned in his direction, as all tried to explain at once, but the conductor

# "——shook his flaxen head and smilingly answered:—"

"Nix-fer-stay." Then they said it all over again, with that calm and indomitable assurance which all English seem to have, that if they only speak distinctly and forcibly enough in their

native tongue, every foreigner will surely understand.

But it was of no avail; the conductor "had no English," and the party "had no German." last as the English began for the fourth time to rehearse their "tale of woe," I ventured, seeing no one else was likely to come to their relief, to say a few words in German to the conductor. At this the English party turned to me and poured forth the story once more, as if I had not been able to hear the relation the other four times; but I listened gravely and did what I could to elucidate matters, enough so that finally the conductor ejaculated, "Ja, ja, ganz recht,"

slammed the door and we rolled away.

Then the English party added for me a few personal details, saying that they had traveled in India, in Egypt and nearly all over the globe, this being their third trip through Germany. "And you do not speak German?" I inquired. rather superfluously, it must be admitted. "Oh, no?" they returned complacently, "We do not speak any language but our own; we can always make ourselves understood in English." I was sorely beset with a desire to laugh, but managed, I trust, to keep my countenance as impassive as the faces of the fifth and sixth occupants of the conveyance, who had not moved a muscle during all this confabulation.

Reaching Kastel, I took train for Wiesbaden, which lies inland, principally in a broad and smiling plain bounded far away on the one hand by the river Rhine, and encircled otherwise by the southern declivities of the Taunus Mount-Off in the distance, the peaks of the Odenwald and the Donnersberg are silhouetted against the horizon. The woodland slopes that rise gently away from the main town, are

threaded by picturesque and leafy avenues whose umbrageous nooks are studded with

stately mansion and ornate cottage.

Records show that Wiesbaden was first known as Mattiacum, and the graver citizens of this now fashionable watering place, are fond of mentioning that Pliny himself stated, "Sunt et Mattiaci fontes catidi." These "hot springs" of volcanic origin, are certainly in evidence today and to them the city owes its distinctive prosperity. About some of the principal ones, the ground is warm at all times and even in winter no snow can remain there. Most of the great hotels have their own boiling mineral springs, and the facilities for laving in and imbibing the curative waters are innumerable.

It is a pretty town; its gay and cheerful appearance somewhat suggestive of Lucerne, but without the superb setting of that gem of pleasure-places. As in Lucerne, the attractions of the old and the new are inseparably blended. Traces of old Roman occupation, such as the ancient "Wall of the Heathen," numerous votive stones, massive antique baths excavated from far below the present surface, tiles with the stamp of the Legion, coins and various other relics, are to be noted within stone's throw of, if not actually contiguous to pleasant modern parks and promenades, gay gardens, fine churches, theaters, ornamental villas and the like; and in addition, all the concomitants, architectural or otherwise, incidental to a popular "cure;" such as palatial bath-houses, splendid drinking-halls, or "pump-rooms" and so forth, with every fin de siècle convenience and improvement.

The one defect in natural beauty, is the lack, within the immediate area of the city, of lake or river; hence artificial ponds and fountains are

much more numerous here than in Lucerne, as there Nature herself has wrought on so mighty a scale, that man's efforts seem puny and ineffective; but here he has had wider scope and the beautiful adornments of square and Platz and of the spacious grounds of the various Kurhausen throughout the place, are indeed diverse and enchanting.

Everywhere also as in Lucerne, one meets a brilliant, light-hearted throng, but here there is a very large supplement of the aged and infirm, "the lame, the halt," and I do not know but "the blind," also, who flock here with canes and crutches and in rolling-chairs, to obtain the

benefit of these healing waters.

The city in some respects also reminds me of some of our thriving American towns, as improvements seem to be continually under way; new tramways are in progress, though there are many previous lines; old buildings are in demolition and new ones in building, so that there is an air of pleasing activity to be noted throughout the streets, though there is none of the rush and clangor of a large commercial center.

Wiesbaden is now a city of sixty thousand or more inhabitants. Much of its development is said to be due to the late Emperor William I., who made this his favorite bathing-place for many years and never failed to show special favor to the town.

Of the many splendid and picturesque edifices of Wiesbaden, I will say little. One of the most conspicuous is the great synagogue standing upon steep Michaelsberg. It is of noble, oriental style, wrought out in light-gray sandstone decorated with arabesques. With its Moorish spires, its domes and huge cupola, it is a grand

and impressive structure. In the Markt Platz stands the new Town-Hall, a peculiarly shaped, seven-sided building, of variegated sandstone, seeming to be in composition, a blending of Renaissance and Gothic features. Many balconies and galleries give variety to the façades. standard-bearer of chased copper decorates the main front. In the upper field of the middle gable is the civic coat-of-arms borne by allegorical fig-In the window medallions are busts of the emperors William I. and Frederick III. Adorning the central balcony are colossal statues of Justice, Power, Diligence and Benevolence. Various other details abound, of fitting and interesting decoration. The whole effect is picturesque without lacking in dignity.

Passing along Wilhelm and Taunus streets, we come to the entrance of the Nerothal where we find a fine bronze monument in honor of Wiesbaden's sons who fell in the campaigns of

1870-71, against the French.

All about here are verdant vineyards and, beyond and above, the well-wooded heights of the Neroberg, accessible by cog-wheel railway. Reaching the top one finds a wide, ted, undulating plain pleasingly diversified by grove and garden, and quaint as well as elegant detached structures. A few brings one to the Nero Temple, a small pavilion of white marble with rounded dome supported by slender columns upon a circular platform. From here one has a lovely view; but, going on, one comes to one of the finest hotels in the vicinity, eight hundred feet above the plain, with an observatory of odd construction seventy feet higher, from which is seen a vast, unobstructed prospect over a marvelous expanse of landscape. One's gaze roves abroad over a

wide emerald plain, through the far distance of which the silvery waters of the Rhine, spanned by the graceful bridge at Mainz, gleam in their winding course. Wiesbaden is at one's feet, and the whole immense sea of Taunus' green foliage stretches north and north east, wafting afar its balmy odors. Outlined against the sky are the proud summits of the Wurzel, Platte, Feldberg, Alt-koenig, besides Melibokus and Donnerberg: between them lie verdant and shadowy valleys inhabited by all manner of game. To quote an enthusiastic visitor, "Forest and fountain seem to do their utmost to give back health to suffering mankind."

Still strolling onward, one reaches the spot where, 'midst forest green and sylvan shade, lies

Wiesbaden's "city of the dead."

Gazing upon its peaceful loveliness, one recalls the words of an ancient minnesinger who so long ago felt that

> "Here beneath these leafy shadows, With the soft breeze roving past, And the songsters' mellow warbling, It were sweet to lie at last."

Here, as elsewhere over all the "wide, wide world," has grieving affection striven to render immortal the memory of its vanished ones; but among the many artistic tributes are two of such rare beauty, that possibly a brief descrip-

tion may be of interest.

The one, representing a small chapel, is hewn from pure white marble. The sad figure of mourning Love stands at the threshold, and to her the door is opened by a little Angel of Peace. To the left of the door stands a youth with a wreath of poppy leaves and an inverted torch. There is a simple and classic beauty

about the whole conception, that is very affect-

ing.

The other, just beyond, known as the "Grecian Chapel," is entirely diverse in type. It is in the form of a Greek cross and is richly adorned without and within, while above its green embowerment, rise five golden cupolas into the clear light of heaven. This sepultary edifice was reared to the memory of the wife of the Duke of Nassau, the lovely princess Elizabeth Michaelowna, who died in the flower of her A flight of broad, marble steps leads to the interior, where the light filters in through splendidly ornate, stained windows and falls in countless, prismatic hues over the polished marble walls, whereon are hung many a rare painting of themes sacred and sublime. In the center of the beautiful rotunda, under the gentle light of the cupola, lies the lovely sculptured figure of the fair princess. Rich curtains draped far above fall in folds of artistic grace. shielding but not hiding the pure young beauty here so delicately, so touchingly represented. Faith, Hope, Charity and Immortality stand at the four corners of the sarcophagus, keeping silent guard forever.

In this chapel, the Russian community of

Wiesbaden holds its religious services.

With so much beauty of art and nature on all sides, one would fain linger discovering new delights at every step, but the shades of night are gathering and, though there is no darkness in this electricity-illumined spot, yet tired feet and eyes petition for respite even from the pursuit of beauty, and I return to my hotel, which, by the way, is somewhat different in arrangement from any that I have seen before.

There is a large, imposing entrance-portal, or

vestibule, that opens directly from the street on the same level, and extends inward about fifty feet; up two or three steps at one side, open the great dining and breakfast-rooms; from the other, a large, square hall, from which access is had to the elevator, the porter's lodge and the like. The rear wall of the vestibule is of glass, with a wide opening in the middle, admitting to a central court gay with flowers and trees. Here meals are served al fresco. But the peculiarity is that around this court, which is inclosed by the inner walls of the hotel, are a number of doors with steps and sometimes little porches before them, and these lead into complete apartments or suites, so that the occupants have a private entrance of their own, opening only into their own quarters and through which no guests of the hotel pass, except themselves. These families may take their meals in the dining-room, or in the court under their windows, or have them sent in, or go outside for them, as they prefer. It struck me as a happy mingling of the advantages of public and domestic living.

I did a little shopping in Wiesbaden, and found to my surprise, when the saleswoman put the wares before me, that I had asked for embroidery-needles instead of pins. In the laugh that we had together over my blunder, I discovered that she spoke English, so I made no more

errors.

Speaking of shopping, reminds me that while I was in Hanover, a German lady told me that it was not "good form" to leave any store which one had entered, without purchasing something. Visitors are not expected to inspect goods unless desiring to buy, and, if the stock fails to contain the article desired, one must purchase something to recompense the dealer for

showing his wares. "Opening Days" are unknown and "one's room is better than one's company" unless one buys goods whether wanted or not. Naturally, the raids of the genus "shopper" are sternly discountenanced. It was quite different in Paris, where the salespeople give a visitor every facility to look about.

On the whole goods are not expensive and are made for service. Gloves, millinery and silks, though dearer than in France, are much less so than in America. Rates for tailoring and needle work in general, are lower than in France; though to my surprise, I found them moderate there, outside the large, fashionable emporiums so well known on both sides of the water.

Here, as in most foreign countries, American shoes are found at the head,—not meaning that they take the place of hats,—the German shoe especially being "fearfully and wonderfully made." I am reminded of a little incident that occurred as I was walking to church one morning. I was not quite sure as to the way and, as I crossed a street, I met a pleasant-looking lady of whom I inquired.

She replied in English, adding: "You are American, are you not?"

"Oh!" I replied, somewhat chagrined, "is it possible my German is so faulty that you can even tell whether I am American or English?"

"Not that at all;" she answered, "it is your feet. I noticed as you held you skirts out of the dust, that you were wearing American shoes, and as you are a stranger and a foreigner, I decided that you were from America."

I felt quite relieved and went on my way rejoicing, though I marveled at the keenness of her

observation.

I think I have remarked before that I like

Germans the best of any foreigners that I have encountered. As a rule, they are very friendly and "level-headed," and occasionally they show such delicious and unexpected simplicity. As for instance; one day at dinner in my pension, the conversation turned upon the subject of divorce and the greater facility,—which unfortunately is too true,—with which it may be obtained in America, and especially in Chicago, than in Europe. The report as to how far South Dakota had out-stripped the older community, in this special line, had evidently not yet penetrated into dreamy old Germany. At any rate, our hostess, a traveled and cultured lady, remarked in perfect good faith:

"Why, is it not dreadful? I was reading today in a paper, how it is over there in Chicago. There is a place right in the post office, where you can go and get divorce-papers while you are

waiting for your mail."

Her shocked expression, with her implicit reliance on a newspaper squib, were too much for one having a keen sense of the ludicrous, and in spite of my efforts, I "ha-ha-ed" right out, almost before the words had left her lips. It was some time before she could comprehend why I laughed, and I fancy she even yet believes it was principally due to the reprehensible folly of "those dreadful Americans," for the other Americans at the table laughed too, though it was I who disgracefully led the van.

It was while at this pension that I learned that visitors are not desired in German schools, and only admitted after much use of "red tape." Expressing a desire to see something of the practical educational system of Germany, I was informed that it would be necessary to make application to the authorities for a permit, which

might not be granted for several months, if at all. A case was instanced of a gentleman from Kansas, who, being a professional pedigogue of repute in his own country, applied on his arrival in Hanover, for such a permit; he made a long stay there, followed some branch of study, made himself familiar with the city and busied himself in various ways, but finally was obliged to return to America to take up his professional duties; and not until he had been gone three months, did his governmental permission to visit the schools of Hanover, arrive at his foreign address. Old-world citizens are continually complaining because the Americans are "always in such a hurry." Not wishing to remain indefinitely in any place, I decided to make no application of any kind to the authorities.

#### CHAPTER XXXIV.

By way of variety, instead of going back to Kastel for the "Rhine-Journey," which is the usual route, I took a steam tram at Wiesbaden and went over to Biebrich-Bahnhof, a short distance below Kastel on the river. For several weeks now I have seen nothing of my luggage excepting two small "grips," as my Rund-Reise ticket, taken at Hanover, allows nothing free but what can be taken into one's compartment; so I expressed my heavy pieces to London to be stored there until my arrival. I might better

have left a large part of it in America.

It is really amusing to see what an amount of "traps" under the guise of hand-luggage is brought into the compartment by the average traveler, to avoid paying excess charges; as it all is transported in any case, I do not see why it could not as well be stowed in the luggage-van, out of the passenger's way; it would weigh no more there than in the compartment, certainly. Probably, however, the baggage coaches are so small that such a course would necessitate putting on an extra one, and that would entail much additional weight. And here let me once more sound a warning to the "lone one." True, I had been warned myself before sailing, and thought had I reduced my "things" to the smallest livable compass, but here I have been existing for weeks, in two "grips," and shall have to continue so to do, for some time more. But there was one point that I did not realize and which I emphasize for the benefit of my solitary sister; namely, the slight degree of variation in temperature over here, from day to day. One does not appear in flannels and furs in the morning and in frills and fans before night, or vice-versa, as so often with us; and I have never yet, even in the crowded cities, experienced any of what the average American would call "truly torrid" weather, though the native on this side may be complaining of the "beastly heat." This state of things naturally renders the wardrobe question less complicated, fewer changes being required. Since winter has really taken its leave, the atmosphere has been mostly genial and delightful. To be sure, I can only speak regarding the parts I have visited.

It was charming indeed to-day as we ran along in the open country and through two or three trim and quaint little hamlets, before reaching our destination at the boat-landing of Biebrich, a small village that has sprung up around Schloss Biebrich, the property of the Duke of Nassau. If one prefers, one may leave the train at Mosbach and walk thence to this same point, through the lovely grounds of this castle, and past its interesting antiquity; though, being a little less than two hundred years old, it is considered rather modern in these

regions.

A goodly multitude of expectant humanity of assorted nationalities, awaited the coming of our steamer from Mainz-Kastel, which cities we could see distinctly on opposite banks of the Rhine, as we looked up the stream. Finally the "German Emperor" came puffing sedately down the river with much dignity, though, being but a boat, he—or "she"—did not ignore the manifest desire of the populace, but swerved gracefully toward us with several discordant shrieks

little creditable to her—or "his"—majesty. Quite a number of persons had already taken passage from the "twin cities" above, and we

hastened to swell the throng.

The Rhine steamers are of good size, not so large as the Hudson River floating palaces, but pleasant and well-equipped. It seemed queer to have first and second class even here. I believe the second classers must not go to the salon-deck, but their quarters, from what I could see as I passed up the companion-way, seemed clean and attractive.

And now I am really abroad upon the famous river around whose very name there lingers so much of romance and poetry. It is a gay scene; tug-boats, passenger-boats, freight-boats, pleasure-boats, of nearly every size and type, are passing to and fro and all is life and animation. The sun shines brilliantly, the fields are smiling, pennons gracefully flutter, the wavelets foam and sparkle about our steamer, reflecting all the colors of the rainbow, and happy hearts make holiday with laughter and song.

Countless little tables are set about and lively groups gather around with various kucken and other edibles, washed down by the light beers and wines of the country. The American tourist, distinctive by his unconquerable penchant for 'ice-water' though he may also swallow much stronger beverages, is on hand and appears to oscillate between two extremes, the wildly rapturous and the loftily disparaging. I, wishing to avoid either, do not parade my nationality but sit quietly in as German a seeming as I can command.

But I soon lose all thoughts of self as the lovely pictures on either side gradually unroll before me. A little hand-book I have picked

up, declares that "the Rhine is the most interesting river in the world," and I do not know but the author has struck the key-note of its peculiar charm. There are longer rivers; there are grander rivers; there are rivers whose shores spread out in sublimer landscapes; but what other river has the legends, the traditions, the myths and mysteries, as well as the splendidly authentic record of bravery and chivalry through hundreds of years, handed down from generation to generation, that cluster along this meandering stream which first transmitted to Germany the culture of the Romans?

Story and verse, epic and lyric, from time unreckoned have rendered immortal its fascinations and its renown; while frowning castle and crumbling ruin give visible attestation to its present and its former importance. There is a charm about it all, that is well nigh unteilable; and one begins to comprehend the emotions of that aged German sire who so long ago in apposite verse, adjured his son to "go not to the Rhine," lest he "never come back any more."

For the water smiles up at the mountains so blue, And the mountains smile back to the stream, And the lassies and lads are so friendly and true, That thy soul shall in Paradise seem.

Entranced by the smiles and bewitched by the wine, Ecstatic its vineyards thou'lt roam, And singing forever, "The Rhine, O, the Rhine!" Thou'lt never come back to thy home.

We are fairly under way and, leaving Castle Biebrich embowered in its leafy nook behind us, our boat winds along amidst the islands that so numerously intersperse this stretch of the river, and nears Niederwalluf, at which point the famous "Rhine-Wine-District" begins. The slopes are dotted with elegant villas and picturesque cottages, with castle or ruin on every height; while in all the green intervales and reaching back upon the fertile declivities, twine the verdant tendrils and droop the purple clus-

ters devoted to the worship of Bacchus.

On the right appears Elfeld, which, in contrast to all the misty romance of this interesting locality, claims to have possessed as long ago as 1465, that very practical and matter-of-fact machine, a printing-press. A handsome Gothic watch-tower reared in 1330, looks down calmly upon us as we pass beneath its portals and move on, approaching first one side and then the other of the sinuous stream whose delightful shores lie so near at either hand and stretch back into vistas of enchantment.

The vineyards of the "Rhinegan" are getting more numerous. Yonder lies Hattenheim with its giant pipe; beyond, the vines of Steinberg and Marcobrunn; near at hand, the gray walls of the monastery Eberbach; and everywhere creeping close to the borders of the river, are the cheerful little villages that give pleasing

vivacity to the beauteous scene.

And now rises a fair incline that undulates in gently sloping terraces to a considerable height, on the top of which appears an extensive but simply designed edifice. This is the world-renowned Schloss Johannisbery where is produced the precious wine of that name. This, with adjacent grounds, is the property of Prince Metternich, and comprises a vineyard of many acres. Some one has enthusiastically called it the "Pearl of the Rhinegau;" in consideration of the wine it produces, I should think "ruby" the better term, but there!—what do I know about it? "Johannisberger" may be pearl-col-

ored for aught I can testify, for I have not yet, in spite of my now lengthy sojourn in the land of the grape and vine, learned to imbibe their liquid products with any more gusto than when

I left my native land.

Still on we glide. On either side of the river, running mostly parallel to its shores, stretches a railroad track; occasionally we note a train rushing along, sometimes on the one hand, sometimes on the other, frequently on both at once, all far out-stripping our own rate of speed; but as we watch them plunge into the black tunnels under every hill, we are glad that we may float down the stream in the free air and sunshine.

More and more fascinating grows the scene. Now rise into view the towers and gables of fair Rudesheim, nestled with its numerous hotels and pleasant wine-gardens at the foot of the great Niederwald, a dark forest above whose oaken branches and shadowy crown of foliage looms far up on the summit of the mountain, the pride of the nation, that great master-piece of commemorative art, "Die Wacht am Rhein."

It is a grand and beautifully impressive object visible for miles around from vale and river. One may leave the boat here and take a cogwheel railway up through vineyards and groves to the top of the mountain, and thus inspect

closely this noble creation.

The figure of Germania, a woman richly garbed, with flowing robes and corsage of mail, stands boldly forth before the imperial throne. Her left hand grasps a mighty sword wreathed in laurel, her right holds proudly aloft the august, jeweled crown of Germany.

The figure is thirty-six feet high and is the design of Professor J. Schilling of Dresden. The bronze casting was done in Munich and con-

sists partly of metal of conquered cannon, a fact adding to the significance of the memorial. The masonry beneath the monument is mighty and solid, being circular in form. From the grand boulevard below, a wide flight of many steps, broad and imposing, rises to the base of this foundation and terminates at a spacious platform. Leading from one side of this, a narrower flight passes around the great bulk of the structure and up to another extensive platform in the rear, which is on a level with the substruc-All exposed verges are carefully railed in. Upon the substructure stands the pedestal of the monument. At the front, on a small pedestal of its own, is a noble group representing the rivers Rhine and Moselle. On the right upon the main pedestal and above the river-group, stands the haughty figure of War, stern and defiant; on the corresponding left, the graceful form of Peace, prosperous and serene.

Between these two, in the main façade, is a magnificent high-relief of "Die Wacht am Rhein," with portrait figures of the late Emperor William I. and many of the princes and officers instrumental in the reconstruction of the German Empire; the lofty and commanding form of Bismarck standing out almost as haughty and defiant as the figure of War itself, while below is graven in letters of unusual size, the full text of the stirring poem from which the memorial

takes its name.

On the right and left faces respectively, are fine reliefs, "The Departure" and "The Homecoming." The foundation-stone was laid by the old Emperor William, and the monument was unvailed in his presence and that of an enthusiastic multitude in 1883. Since then it has been a place of pilgrimage for the whole German nation.

And who can wonder? Even the bosom of an alien pulses more quickly, gazing at the majesobject rising above the lovely scene spread out far below; and when to all this beauty of art and nature, is added the consciousness that here, from away back into dim ages, one's forefathers struggled even unto the death, to defend and prosper the "Fatherland," how one's heart must swell. From so long a time it is that German right and German might have stood here supreme in spite of foreign foes. The old bridge at Drusus speaks of Roman invasion; still are standing at Ingelheim the pillars of Charlemagne's imperial palace; and have not these blue mountains looked down through all the centuries upon the tremendous warfare of German knights, who "put not lance in rest" until the enemy was driven from the borders and no marauder dared again to venture upon the sacred soil?

And now beneath these same blue mountains, upon this arena of a heroic past, moves the busy and joyous pageant of modern life with its incessant activity, its gayety, its elegance. Barge and row-boat, yacht and steamer, glide along the stream; trains dash back and forth and in and out of those stupendous tunnels; thousands of persons on business and pleasure bent, pass to and fro; luxury, invention and speculation have wrought miracles innumerable; and to-day, above all, immutable in beauty and majesty, stands this glorious monument, typifying sublimely forever the thought of a united "Fatherland." And ever joining the past to the present, the silver Rhine flows on.

We rouse from our musings and return to Rudesheim where we re-embark upon the rolling stream.

A little above Rudesheim, on the opposite bank, is Rochusberg with its interesting chapel on the mountain, where is annually celebrated in August the festival of St. Roch. Geethe, who has given us a vivid description of this festivity, presented the little chapel, during his sojourn in the vicinity, an altar-piece which is carefully preserved and cherished.

A little further down the stream is the old ruin Kloppburg, thought to be of Roman origin, and noted as one of the many places where the unfortunate Henry IV. was detained by his unfilial sons in 1105.

The country flattens out somewhat here and, looking to the left, we note the spires and turrets of a considerable city becoming visible just where an arm of the river branches off to the westward. What a thrill runs over one on learning that this is "Bingen, fair Bingen on the Rhine." How the tide of recollection rolls backward and we see ourselves in the old-time school-room where, once a week, are held the "literary exercises" of the various classes; see the agitated maiden, whose trembling hand can scarcely hold the "Fifth Reader" from which she voices in nearly inaudible accents her favorite selection, as ubiquitous in that day as the "Curfew shall not ring to-night," of a later era.

Who does not recall the opening lines?

"A soldier of the legion lay dying at Algiers, There was lack of woman's nursing, there was dearth of woman's tears."

Or perchance it is a sturdy youth, whose graces of elocution are entirely dormant, if at all existent, who, in shaky, uncertain basso, proceeds to declaim with few pauses and no inflections, the same perennial poem; but whichever,

or whoever it is, each invariably declares in lugubrious tones,

"For I was born in 'Bin-jun', fair 'Bin-jun' on jthe Rhine."

Fair indeed it is to-day; and beautiful beyond telling, the green shores and hurrying waters that here race so merrily onward with ripple and swirl of contrary currents, carrying us on swiftly until we pass below the ancient city, and come abreast of a tiny island, principally a rock of quartz, separated by a deep channel from the main shore.

And now what do we see, tall, attenuated, antiquated, with slim, battlemented turrets and narrow slits, rising grim and ghost-like from the very bosom of the waters? Do you

# "——think of the Bishop of Bingen And his mouse-tower on the Rhine?"

For that is what it is. And now I am consumed with curiosity to know why "mouse" tower. My ignorance is dispelled by a reference to the wise little book in my hand, whose terse elucidation I will give for the benefit of some "lone sister" who, like myself, may never before have learned what it all means. Thus the book:

"The Mouse-Tower, properly Mus-Tower, muserie-gunnery; cf. musket; a tower built for levying toll by Archbishop Hatto, as is told by a popular legend." Short and to the point. We shall not forget it.

Prior to the year 1832, this portion of the river was considered very perilous, as great volumes of water were forced through an exceedingly narrow channel; but at that date the operations and improvements upon the stream were

completed and the roaring river was subdued

below the danger-point.

Just below the tower, on the right, lie the ruins Ehrenfels, built in the thirteenth century, also for the levying of toll on passing boats, in that period when so emphatically might meant

right.

Mountain and vineyard, grove and hamlet, appear and fall behind. Again on the left rises a steep rock nearly three hundred feet high, on the summit of which sits the medieval castle Rheinstein, known to have been in existence in the thirteenth century. It was restored in 1829 and is the property of Prince George of Prussia. Now is seen a continuous succession of high, bold precipices rent by great ravines and yawning chasms. Here stands the Falkenberg with thrilling history; centuries ago a Roman castle, later a robber's stronghold and once destroyed by Rudolph of Hapsburg.

Yonder upon that huge rock wall, eight hundred feet above the river, looms the magnificently restored Castle Sooneck, the property of the Emperor and his brothers, its modern impregnability contrasting strangely with the

ancient ruins so close at hand,

Bolder and loftier grow the shores. The vineyards are now behind us. Castle after castle bristling with defences, towers upward on the crags, or ruined and dismantled displays its crumbling buttresses and fallen arches decked with moss and climbing plants.

Scant space here have the little villages to crowd in between the river's margin and the rugged cliffs behind. On the left again is the recently rebuilt Castle Heimburg, or Hoheneck, rising from the fragments of a Roman castle wholly destroyed in 1689. To the right the

ruin Nollingen, of the eleventh century, looking down over its "Devil's Ladder;" a steep incline of sharp-notched, rocky up-thrusts apparently insurmountable, yet over which a daring and impetuous knight of an ancient day is said to have forced his "noble steed" to gain his "beauteous bride." Whether she too was brave and dared to ride down with him again, "deponent," alas, "sayeth not." Opposite rises a huge, round tower, almost all that is left of Castle Furstenburg, taken by Lewis the Bavarian in 1321, and finally demolished in 1609.

The line of elevation descends for a space to a lower height. Here in a narrow area, crowding against the overhanging declivities, is the quaint town of Bacharach, whose well-preserved city-walls connect with the ruined Castle Stah-

lick on the rocks above.

On the other side of the river, the town of Kaub, with considerable remains of ancient fortifications; this spot has a more modern interest as the place through which Blucher passed on New Year's eve, 1813-14. Above here, old Castle Gutenfels, destroyed by Napoleon in 1805. In the center of the stream at this point, is another huge rock upon which stands the *Pfalz*, a vaster and more imposing, but not so romantic a structure as the "Mouse-Tower," reared for the same purpose, the levying of toll in the days of mediæval oppression.

I cannot name all these mighty castles and majestic ruins, but which shall I ignore? Not beautiful Schoenberg with its three ivy-mantled towers rising so picturesquely on yonder wooded height; nor the "ancient, free and imperial town," Oberwahl, with its antique defenses; nor yet Ochsenthurm stately in mediæval ma-

sonry.

O, fair and thrilling picture! O, crumbling castles and ruins gray, and frowning crag and rolling river! Higher and closer rise the mountains. Deeper and narrower grows the stream and the near rocks cast shadows. The flowing waters roll on and sweep around an eminence huge and high, far above the river. Steep and ragged is its front, and cruel the reefs that show their jagged teeth beneath the crystal waves; but aloft the sunlight glitters and the grass grows green in dappled dells. Do you hear the Loerlei singing?

A maiden of loveliest seeming Afar on those heights so fair, With golden ornaments gleaming, Is combing her golden hair.

Sha'l she lure us on till the grinning rocks shall dash us to our doom? Oh! Heine, how your measures weird and thrilling, and how the "witchery of the Rhine-land," do "work like madness in the brain." Rouse up, O, Sense; put away the glamour of song and music and legendary lore: look out with vision unclouded and say what, in verity, you now behold. A narrow turn in a beautiful stream and a lofty bluff, 'tis true: but modern science has widened the channel and the bluff is not more than five hundred feet in height; not so high as the Sooneck some distance back. And have you not also looked upon the ice-topped Alps of Switzerland and the white ruggedness of the Rocky Moutains that thrust themselves against high heaven?

But should one then bring out one's measuring-line and say: "This height is so many feet lower than that; this rock is but one-third as vast as another; I have seen wider streams

and summer skies?"

Not so: let us rather yield again to the spell of ancient days, of tradition and of poesy, and float on enchanted, in a haze of dreamy delight.

So we turn again to the lovely scene.

Yonder is St. Goar where dwelt the venerable hermit thirteen hundred years ago. Farther on, perched on a prominent height, the ruins of the so-called "Cat," a fortress of the Katzenelbogen (cat's elbow!) family and torn down in 1806; and just below, another crumbling pile said to to be in a military sense, (which I do not comprehend,) "at the mercy of the cat," therefore with fit though rather grim humor, called "The Mouse."

How closely crowd the castellated ruins along each bank. Yonder appear two bulky elevations looking out from their height, upon the winding river that curves gracefully here around the base of the mountain. Each is crowned with a fortress that long rose up impregnable, and is divided from the other only by a deep, narrow chasm called "The battle ditch."

Here, ages ago, tradition tells, there dwelt two brothers in these two castles on these twin mountains, in splendor of pomp and power, each with his numerous retinue. But in the course of time, instead of inclining to

> "Each his friendly aid afford, And feel his brother's care,"

they sought only war and strife, and so fought unceasingly across the narrow ravine, whose depths have hidden many a glastly victim and echoed many a dying groan. But their warfare is accomplished; centuries since, the last armed watchman left these battlements, the last mailed warrior abandoned these ramparts; the mighty walls are weakened; chaotic fragments fill the

spacious inclosures and modern warfare laughs their defenses to scorn. But still the old bulwarks stand gazing off over this great theater of time's infinite changes, and still the smiling Rhine rolls on.

With a wide sweep the river turns eastward and then again as far west. Fair Bornhofen lies near with its cloister to which, even in this prosaic age, flock crowds of pilgrims every year, to pray before the hallowed shrine where sits enthroned a Holy Mary of wondrous, miracleworking grace. Soon bold Marxburg lifts into view, the only castle on the Rhine that has never been destroyed, though dating beyond 1100.

But now a most unique edifice appears on the left, at some distance from the shore, for here again the hills have receded somewhat and are less precipitous. This, like the other antique structures, is of heavy masonry, but is low and broad and seems little but a massive, flat roof resting upon many open arches. A flight of steps about half the height of the building, leads to a rather stately portal rising perhaps five or six feet above the main front.

A kindly neighbor here informs me that this is "The King's chair;" is eighteen feet high within and has eight stone seats, one for the emperor, seven for the electors. Here the emperors were elected down to the fifteenth century, and in 1330 it was decided that "the pope's approval was not necessary to confirm a choice." All this is truly quaint and old-timey.

Across on the right, just before the river Lahn empties into the Rhine, stands the very ancient town of Oberlahnstein; and above on you steep rock, Castle Lahneck, once the property of the Knights-Templars, and the scene of many an heroic conflict and defiant death in the centuries

agone. It was finally dismantled by the French in 1688, but is now private property, having been restored in 1860.

Now haughty Stolzenfels, constructed in the thirteenth century rears up its great, pentagonal tower on the left, nearly five hundred feet above the Rhine. It is a stately stronghold, splendidly restored, and contains, we are told, every elegance and many rich collections. How wonderful must be the view from off its pinnacles, down over verdant groves to fair Capellan at its feet, and off eastward where the tortuous Lahn reaches away toward Ems.

More marvelous still the changes it has witnessed in the status of mankind, both subjectively and objectively, through all this wide expanse, aye, through all the world abroad; while northward ever the rippling Rhine runs on.

Some distance along to the left, we see the suburban villas of a populous city and soon beautiful Coblenz spreads out into view, magnificently situated at the junction of the Moselle with the Rhine. Three fine bridges, the first since we left Biebrich, cross the main riverbetween here and Stolzenfels. In the Moselle in 1864, were found the remains of a Roman bridge; to day a handsome solid structure of stone leads across this river just above its mouth. We note the quaint old Castor Church which, with its Gothic towers, has stood here for more than a thousand years.

A strong fort with garrison of fifty one hundred soldiers, commands the city and all the immediate vicinity; while opposite the mouth of the Moselle, the great fortress Ehrenbreitstein, inaccessible on three sides, frowns down from its height of over three hundred feet. Never but twice in all the centuries of its existence,

has this fortress succumbed, and both times only through hunger. What tragedies of resistance and endurance that brief phrase implies. What scenes of agony and horror have been enacted within and before these invincible barriers which to-day look so tranquilly down upon the fertile plains stretching off so far below; for here lies the lovely Ehrenbreitstein valley, whereof it truly seems that its "ways are ways of pleasantness and all" its "paths are peace."

In this fair district Goethe abode in 1774, with Basedow and Lavater; and still as then and in ages past, the restless Rhine sweeps on.

Two large and leafy islands almost intercept us at this point, but we carefully feel our way along in the channel, and our gaze, so long restricted by lofty cliff and peak, now roves freely over arable field and grassy meadow, while anew the clustering villages crowd close to the water's edge. But yet a little farther, and once more arise the heights crowned as before with castle and watch-tower, rampart and ruin.

O, wondrous Rhine! What pen shall fitly trace the glorious history of its borders? Here is Engers, where Cæsar is sa'd to have crossed the river. There are the ruins of Sayn, one of the most ancient strongholds upon the Rhine; and Andernach, with its walls of Roman origin and beautiful remains of tower and rampart, that resisted even the gunpowder of the French

in 1688.

On yonder high and craggy rock, are the extensive ruins of Hammerstein, once strongly fortified and one of the places of refuge for the sorely beset Henry IV., but finally demolished in 1660 by that warlike prelate, the Bishop of Cologne. Over on the left, above its verdure-crested hill, rises Burg Rheineck, rebuilt in 1832

upon the ruins of the old fortress that, dating from the eleventh century, had again and again been leveled and re-reared by opposing hosts. On the other side again, stately New Ahrenfels, erected above the ruins of an ancient robbercastle, looms up proudly in all the bravery of fin

de siècle facade and tower.

Thus on and on we glide adown the broadening stream. Citadel, castle, cloister and convent, ancient and modern, ruined and restored, ever rising before and sinking behind us. Each has its own thrilling record, each its baptism of fire and blood, from away back into the shadows of antiquity. How impossible to realize the conditions through which primitive man has struggled up into the comparative peace and civilization of the present; yet through all, nature smiles serenely and still with ceaseless flow the limpid Rhine moves on.

The pleasant and popular village Remagen,—the Roman Rigomagus,—now comes into view to the left in the valley of the Ahr. At a little distance beyond, in abrupt contrast to stern castles and ancient ruins, appears a beautiful modern church of Gothic architecture, built in 1859 upon a slate rock, and dedicated to St. Apollonaris. This is another celebrated resort for pilgrims; the head of the saint is preserved within and works, so say the faithful, many miracles.

A little further on, a rounded arch of quaint design, all that is left of some antique edifice, stands out conspicuously on the left, three hundred and forty-four feet above the river. Tradition calls this "Roland's Arch," though who Roland was, save that he may have been one of Charlemagne's paladins, and why he had an arch, there are few to-day who know and still fewer who care. The view from this ruin is

considered the most incomparably beautiful of the whole Rhine.

But what is this that towers aloft so high across our very path and seems to loom in grandeur up to the steps of heaven itself? 'Tis thy grim steeps. Oh! Drachenfels, and, set thereon, the remnants of that mighty pile which ancient dragon and mediæval engine could scarce overthrow. And now, just below that ruined magnificence, there rises, grand and massive, a new Drachenburg, in haughty defiance to modern energies. What now the monster housing here within thy secret caverns, and where the "horny Siegfried" that shall rise to lay the ravener low? Impassive in its solid majesty it rears itself above, while far below we round its base and seek the current that shall bear us on.

There on the right, volcanic Siebengebirge, and yonder to the left, the ancient fortifications of Godesberg, rent and dismantled, lift up their peaks and pinnacles. And now the hills fall back once more; the railways veer farther inland and across the country we see wide, straight highways stretching from point to point, lined by beautiful trees. We are approaching Bonn, well known to all the world. It was a flourishing town in the days of Constantine the Great, and so it is to-day. Opposite the city, the river Sieg with many islands, flows into the Rhine from the east, and an extensive forest stretches along its banks.

The Rhine still broadens and now makes another sweep to the east and then winds again to the north. The shores on either side are here flat and little varied, but studded thickly with thriving villages and lovely farm districts. Fair and unobstructed lies the level prospect to the clear horizon. We seem to have emerged from the

dread domain of "grim-visaged War," into the smiling plains of Peace; from the narrow confines of mediæval environment again into the complex and diversified atmosphere of modern existence with range illimitable.

Suburban villas and pleasure-gardens begin to appear; soon long lines of streets and avenues with compact rows of massive buildings and a sea of roofs pierced by spire and cupola; above all of which, in sublime dignity, rises the

ineffable beauty of the great cathedral.

Making our way to the docks and stopping just above the two bridges, one a pontoon, we disembark at Cologne and our voyage is over. Yet ever welling from its snowy source in the distant Swiss-Alps, and hurrying along to its destination in the far North Sea, the beautiful Rhine flows on.

## CHAPTER XXXV.

The brief glimpses one may obtain in a continuous journey from the German frontier across Holland to a near seaport, are not sufficient to afford any great knowledge or wide comprehension of this country and its people. Still one may lay up a store of pleasing recollections even in this short transit, as I find after bidding farewell one morning to the lovely and interesting country of Germany, taking train again at Cologne and speeding away over level areas growing continually lower and more watery as we approach Holland. It rains gently and the whole outlook is indeed aqueous and monotonous.

But the little stations at which we pause are so trim, the more considerable towns thriving, and everywhere the people are kindly and cordial, that one is loth to leave them behind. They all smile and ejaculate "Guten Tag" or "Glueckliche Reise," if they chance to catch one's eve. On this journey I note again the foreign rendering of the "news and gum fiends" of our own land. At each station newsdealers pass along outside the train,-the doors of which open out on and are at an exact level with the station platforms, -and carry or push before them light racks on which are displayed a small assortment of newspapers, rarely any other reading matter. Refreshment venders have neat little tables, often with canopy to shield from sun and rain, and resting on trucks that are easily wheeled along. These tables are tastefully set out with fruit, little cakes, various

sausages, beer, wine and so forth, and are often adorned with flowers. One rarely meets a sandwich on the continent. Everything about the tables, cutlery, glass and the like, is spotless and shining. Passengers looking out, can readily make their wants known and be served by the white-aproned, white-capped attendant, either through the wide-open door, or the lowered glass upper-half; but if not desiring anything, are not annoved in any way by solicitations, or by having diverse weres dumped upon their knees by the passing peddler. Sometimes a youth or maid runs along with either a pitcher of hot café-au-lait or bouillon which are very refreshing and cost about two cents a cup.

By and by we cross the frontier; a civil-appearing officer looks into our compartment and takes our word for it that we have nothing dutiable in our bags. A little placard in English informs us that the Custom-House officers may allow the passengers to "Keep"—with a capital K,—"their places if the latter should prove to have any difficulty in descending." This is kind and humane, surely, and though I, personally, do not "prove to have any difficulty in descending," I still do not leave my place, as my heavy luggage has all gone on ahead. So we roll onward into

the domain of the Dutch.

How flat it all is; not an elevation to be noted in all one's range of vision. I have never seen anything just like it. I have been on the great plains of Iowa and Kansas, but there, there was no water in the landscape; the one was all a great expanse of waving corn, the other,—it then being early winter,—a boundless area of gray, wind-swept waste. I have also seen the marshy lowlands of southern Alabama and Louisiana, where there was no lack of water,

but there the effect was of being in a great hollow below the surrounding surface; in a sort of huge bowl as it were, of which the sea-wall of the gulf in one direction, and the higher, solid ground of the remaining circumference, constituted the rim, so to speak. But here to-day, it seems as if we were running along on a mere crust, cut in all directions by the canals, and liable at any moment to give way and plunge us into the bottomless deep. How strange to think we are actually beholding the "dykes and ditches' of which we have heard from our veriest childhood. This reclaimed land, it is said, is remarkably fertile. Vegetation looks extremely flourishing, and graceful trees with feathery foliage are especially noticeable.

Strange, outlandish names begin to appear on the signs and placards that meet one's eyes, while funny little villages and quaint rural scenes come into view, all on a dead level, with nothing more striking in the way of elevation, than the huge wind-mills that slowly move their heavy pinions. Queer, little, square-built boys and girls, with thick, stiff garments, odd headcoverings and wooden shoes, occasionally look up at us from the highways, and we get glimpses of short, thick-set men and women at work about their hay-ricks and low cots, behind screens of luxuriant, but mainly dwarfed greenery. the chief characteristic of the scene, is water, water; not in winding rivers or picturesque lakes, but in the straight, seemingly endless canals that stretch off monotonously in all directions.

I am not sorry when we come to our destination, the little town of Vlissingen, where I step out wondering, among the Dutch folk.

For the first time in my wanderings, I find

myself unable to speak, after a fashion, the language of the country; but alas, I "have no Dutch," so fall back on English. The first official I accost does not speak this tongue, but evidently recognizes the sound, as he disappears and returns with some one who does speak it.

I mention my desire for a cab; am told there are none there at present but that I can "take a boat," or can hire a guide and walk. Finding the distance short, I elect to do the latter, and my guide, who I find speaks German, slings my

bag over his shoulder and off we start.

The rain has ceased and the sun shines warmly. The flat, green fields stretch off to the right, the level, glittering sea to the left, for here we are, eight hours straight and steady sailing, from the English coast, and no land is visible upon the horizon. The main city lies beyond the

railway station and past these meadows.

We strike into a wide paved path stre

We strike into a wide, paved path stretching, like the canals, straight onward, and fringed at intervals by small shade trees, under which are occasional seats, whereon here and there sit ladies reading. A wagon-road lies on one side of the path, a canal on the other. We see a casual cow off in the fields and we meet one or two phlegmatic-looking pedestrians, but a spell of silence seems to lie upon panorama and people. My guide seems to be infected by it, for he vouchsafes only a "Ja, gnaedige Frau," or "Nein, gnaedige Frau," to my attempts to extract information, so finally I too yield to the taciturn spirit and we walk mutely on.

Reaching my hotel, my man recovers enough of speech to voice a desire for sixty cents. I mention to my hostess, who speaks English, my surprise that he should be familiar with United States money; whereupon she explains that

"cents" is also Dutch money, though one cent Dutch is worth only two-fifths of one cent United States, so I disburse German coin to the required amount, which the lady exchanges for the current coin of the kingdom, and my guide meanders slowly and silently away.

And now begins anew a struggle with a foreign currency this time of *florins*, gulden and cents, but thanks to the decimal system so prevalent on the continent, one soon acquires the new names

and proceeds as before.

My hostess I regret to learn, is French instead of Dutch, and so not typical, either in manner

or habitation, of this odd people.

She leads me through a roomy hall, up a spacious staircase, into a remarkably cheerful room, large, well-equipped, with a broad, double glassdoor in the middle of the front, overlooking another canal immediately before the house, separated from it only by a wide, paved road. More canals reach hither and thither everywhere, with intensely green banks and bearing all sorts of queer-shaped boats; and still farther beyond the canals, the sparkling, open water of the great harbor.

Retiring to an inviting couch, the first double bed that I have seen except in museums, since I left home, I soon succumb to the assaults of the

"sandman" and drift into dreamland.

Vlissingen is a flourishing town of some seventeen thousand inhabitants, a well-known port and bathing resort.

My place I find is somewhat in the suburbs, but "trams" and boats are near at hand so I

soon start out "to see what I can see."

At one extremity of the town a fine promenade called the "North Sea Boulevard," one and one quarter miles long, commands a boundless sea-

view over the broad sands white as snow. Here is situated the "Grand Hotel of Baths," crowded with resorters. The long line of bathing-machines on wheels, drawn up out of the tide after bathing hours and resembling nothing so much as a row of United States "prairie schooners," looks rather odd, as if the population was about to emigrate overland. Back of the wide stretch of snowy sand, is the high dyke or levee, along the the broad top of which I walk, gazing off first on one side over the silver sea, then off on the other across the flat, flat landscape and the quaint little city spread out in rows along the verdant banks of the intersecting canals.

Everything in the far distance inland, seems to dip down into the sea, so monotonously does the unvarying flatness of the level land, meet the misty horizon. Compact, ancient, trim little houses, closely set together, line the narrow streets that follow the banks and quays along the "ditches," while masts and ship-riggings appear in surprising contiguity to roofs and

chimneys.

Descending from the sea-wall, I find my way along cityward in the lower areas, crossing innumerable bridges, passing motley groups of peasants, and sailors of apparently all nations, and meeting many a wholesome-looking Dutch serving maid, in her work-a-day costume of neat, close, white cap and tidy, short-sleeved, anklelengthed, blue linen gown; bearing on her shoulders a peculiar wooden yoke, from which depend long hooks which help sustain the two pails of water she seemes to be always carrying. Another novel spectacle to the foreigner, is the little dog-team often met with, trotting along the quays. Sometimes there are as many as six or eight dogs to one cart; they usually travel on

very harmoniously and obediently, but occasionally a diversion arises. It was my fortune to witness a decided difference in opinion between some of these sturdy and efficient servants, as I

strolled along.

On the opposite side of the quay a team of six canines was dogfully doing its duty, hauling a large cart of milk-cans and attending strictly to business, while the driver, a dumpy little old woman in wooden shoes and a singular cap, walked calmly at the side. In front of a large edifice with high steps, another dog-team had paused evidently for rest, and its various members were lying on the pavement lolling their tongues while their mistress sat on the steps

gossiping.

As the first team drew near, the other dogs pricked up their ears, growled derisively, and apparently threw insulting remarks at the approaching ones. These, before so complacent, began to grow restive, to toss their heads and to utter low rumbles of remonstrance. Still came the jeers and floutings thicker and faster, from the more fortunate beasts resting in the cool shade, toward their unlucky fellow-creatures still sweating in the harness, until mortal dog could stand no more and there was a wild rush of the industrious team, pell mell, upon their recumbent taunters. These sprang to the combat, and for a few minutes the landscape was obscured by a wild storm of flying cans, carts, milk, butter and green groceries, mingled with tufts of hair, broken straps, madly waving tails and glittering teeth, while all sorts of dog-profanity and Dutch peasant objurgations, resounded upon the air, as the excited mistresses strove to quell the tumultuous conflict.

With a hearty laugh, I left them to their fate

and went on my way.

## CHAPTER XXXVI.

There is little pretense of artistic effect, architectural or otherwise about the streets of Vlissingen, though there is an ancient church or two, an interesting museum of antiquities, and along the Quay Bellamy are some fine buildings rising behind the tree-shaded promenade on either side; and a few modest specimens of memorial art meet one unexpectedly, as a barrier of but a few feet high completely obstructs one's outlook, such an absence is there within the city of any vantage-ground from which to overlook the I feel a strange sort of helplessness as I walk along, caused I suppose, by my ignorance of the language and by the before mentioned sensation that I cannot conquer, of the instability of what should be solid earth, but what may be, and but for the Hollanders' indefatigable exertions would be, a rolling waste of wide waters.

Thus I go meditatively on, making devious turns as fancy beckons, when I am suddenly brought to a standstill against a blank wall. I look about finding no egress except behind me, and seeing nobody of whom to inquire, except two or three stolid individuals in appearance hopelessly Dutch. I naturally retrace my steps a few paces, but where to go? Across this canal or along that one? On which side is the sea, for it is not visible at this "depth" wherein I stand? Where is the sun? Ah, its vanishing rays are gleaming yonder, that must be seaward; so I proceed in the opposite direction, wonder-

ing who of these foreign-looking beings can understand the speech of the alien wanderer. I accost one; alas, "no English, no French, no German;" I pass on; by and by I try again, same result. Still going, I cross a bridge that seems familiar; I am encouraged; but which way to turn? Now I see approaching a man in naval uniform, the style of his "get-up" showing him to be an officer. Owing to the daily plying of steamers between Holland and England, I feel sure that a naval officer must know English, so I again make inquiries. My surmise proves correct and I am politely informed to my astonishment that I am almost at the very door of my hotel, it being only around the next corner and along the next canal, though invisible from our point of view. So I am again housed in safety.

As the sun pours into my chamber next morning, I am dazzled by the glorious radiance of his beams reflected from the shining waters stretching off from almost directly beneath my window. Rising to shut out the too great brilliance, I hear a sort of high, attenuated melody that excites my curiosity; so I look forth and behold a detachment of Dutch soldiers keeping step to the odd music and marching sedately past wearing tall, quaint caps and grave uniforms of They do not look as if they were somber blue. much exhilarated by any prospective "pomp and circumstance of war;" and no wonder, poor fellows; for what an unceasing conflict have they, the Hollanders, had with nature and with man, to preserve their identity as a country and as a nation. At this time great preparations are making for the coming coronation of their young queen, who attains her majority the next year. Among other things is a great, glittering, golden

coach, in which she is to ride on that important day. All of these proposed details come to pass later, in successful splendor, as her youthful majesty assumes the reins of her kingdom.

I go out afterward into the radiant atmosphere which yet has no corresponding warmth in it, and take train for Middlebourg, having previously been "coached" by my hostess as to price of ticket and so forth. So I hold out my exact fare to the conductor, but to my dismay he asks me something in Dutch; I do not understand, of course, and inquire successively, "Do you speak English?" "Sprechen Sie Deutsch?" and "Parlez-vous Français?" but receive in answer only a smiling and apologetic shake of the head. Here a kindly Dutch lady across the aisle notes our perplexity and comes to the rescue in English. She discovers that the conductor wishes to know if I would like a return ticket which is somewhat cheaper. I take advantage of the opportunity and this being settled, thanks to the courteous Dutchwoman, I turn my attention to the watery, windmilly view.

Much of the time we run along between continuous green lanes that, hedged in, shut off any outlook. On the other side, I suppose, are

more "ditches."

Arriving at Middlebourg, I find a provincial fair or "kermess" in progress, which is interesting beyond telling. This takes place annually I learn, at this season and continues ten days. To this on certain days of the week, repair the peasants and "peasantesses" in full regalia of their national costumes, which are picturesque in the extreme. They are very diverse, though I am told each province has its distinctive style that is handed down, cut, colors and texture, from generation to generation.

The women are much handsomer than the men, having beautiful, clear, white complexions and noble, intelligent faces. They all wear the close, white coif, which reveals a little of the hair on the forehead but comes down snugly A few have frills falting over about the ears. the neck or standing away from the face. Each is adorned by strange metal ornaments, whether brass or gold I did not ascertain, which are fastened apparently into the very head itself, at the temples, close to the eyes, over which the ornaments dangle or wave, according to their configuration. Some are like flags, others spirals and still others like beads. So far as I observed, the arms were invariably bare and the skirts in no case hid the feet. The colors of the costumes are very modest and tasteful, usually a dark rich brown, plum or wine colored main garment, with delicate blue, lavender or green accessories and with vests or chemisettes of heavily-wrought, snowy lawn or cambric. They wear numerous adornments in the line of necklaces, brooches and chains, and the fingers of many are loaded with rings. It looks particularly odd to see tiny tots of four and five years, tricked out in these antique and elaborate costumes.

The men's garb is not so picturesque. Dark, short jackets, knee-breeches, long hose, low buck led shoes and close-fitting head gear, a sort of compromise between hat and cap, are the chief features of every costume, with little attempt at decoration.

Middlebourg is the capital of Zealand and, according to statistics, has nearly nineteen thousand inhabitants. Some of its promenades are beautiful, though of course, all on a dead level, and its architecture is nobly quaint and remarkable.

The City Hall, situated in the center of the town, is a magnificent and uniquely imposing structure, built by Charles the Bold in 1468. More remote from the busier parts of the city, is an ancient abbey, dating from the twelfth century. To reach this, one follows an angling, narrow way seeming scarcely wide enough for two carts to pass each other, but surprisingly clean, with queer little houses standing close to the pavement; so close indeed that the passer-by may get glimpses of occasional exquisite interiors, some of the rooms being paved and lined up the sides to various heights, with lovely blue and white tiles, while copper, brass and pewter gleam out of unexpected corners, all burnished to a painful degree, and the shining windows

are gav with colored blooms.

This street leads into a sort of wide ornamental area still inclosed by the little houses. but across which, filling in the opposite side, is a queer, old Dutch manor-house of 1590, wonderfully and astonishingly ornate. Off at the right, an arch through the solid mason-work of the encircling houses, leads into an extensive court paved with brick. Here too an unbroken wall of buildings, but of a heavier, loftier order, surrounds the place, and is so high that a nearly perpetual twilight pervades the scene. ponderous erection in the center is designed, I presume, for a decorative fountain, though no water is visible. The great tower of the abbey looms up at one hand. Perfect silence reigns. It is the very abode of peace, or is it death? Not a footfall echoes but my own as I cross the court and pass through a corresponding arch in the opposite wall, coming out on the other side of the abbey, which looks grim and forbidding. I do not enter, but go on down a pleasant street and soon find myself on the way to the station, along an avenue of some pretentions and importance, architecturally and commercially, and

shaded by handsome trees.

The quaint wares of the Dutch country are set forth attractively in great profusion, and the quainter people throng the thoroughfares, passing placidly along. I am unable to resist the novel displays at every hand and finally pause at an entrancing window to wonder and to admire. The proprietor comes out to welcome me and proves to be a very attractive young man of fair skin and large, candid, blue eyes. He speaks English perfectly and is most cordial and polite to the foreigner, giving much courteous and acceptable information. I indulge in a few modest purchases and learn that his name is "Mynheer F. B. Den Boer," which truly is deliciously "Dutchy."

Then I go on to the station and soon find my-

self once more in Vlissingen.

Unfortunately I can not tarry in this singularly interesting country, so, London being the next stage of my journey, I inquire next day as to means of transportation to the docks. Again I am told to my amusement that I can "take a boat," this seeming to be as matter of course a proceeding here, as elsewhere to take a "tram." However, I start out piloted by a friendly German porter; crossing the road, we go a few steps along the canal and lo, here is the point of embarkation.

A bustling little steam-launch puffs up and, for the almost infinitessimal sum of ten cents Dutch, or four cents United States, the porter, my bags and myself are conveyed over the smooth, dark waters of the canal, to the other side of the town, where is the slip of the "Zealand Steamship Company."

Though I found transportation rates so exceedingly small, my expenses otherwise in Holland did not show that prices here are particularly low, and I am told that living in this country is really very expensive, very much more so than in France or Germany.

But now I must bid it all good-bye, so turning my back upon the low-lying shores, I board the waiting vessel and soon we steam out of the harbor, with the prow of the good ship "Duitschland" set forward toward the "white cliffs of

Albion."

## CHAPTER XXXVII.

My lone sister, we have journeyed long in spirit together. The record is lengthy, yet the half is not told. Far enough away, indeed, am I still from my "ain countree," and

"Many a day Must roll away"

ere again I set foot upon my native shores.

How I returned across the tossing channel, on to rare old England with its lovely lakes and scented hedge-rows: how I wandered thence into stern Scotland, through its tangled glens, its heathery slopes, its mountain and its moors, past Stirling bold, up to 'Edinboro' Town;" thence across to gray Glasgow and out once more upon the mighty main, is yet unuttered and unwritten.

I would not exhaust your interest nor hold you till your eye be strained and your ear weary. Shall we here wave adieus and drift apart as

"Fair laughs the morn and soft the zephyr blows; While proudly riding o'er the azure realm,
In gallant trim the gilded vessel goes?"

As for the rest, shall it be written hereafter? Who can tell?

Take up the tale for yourself, dear sister, and bring it to your own conclusion; thus will you be more fully edified and entertained; thus will you lay up for yourself stores of refreshing recollections for that season when you sit solitary,

'Between the dark and the daylight, When the night is beginning to lower."

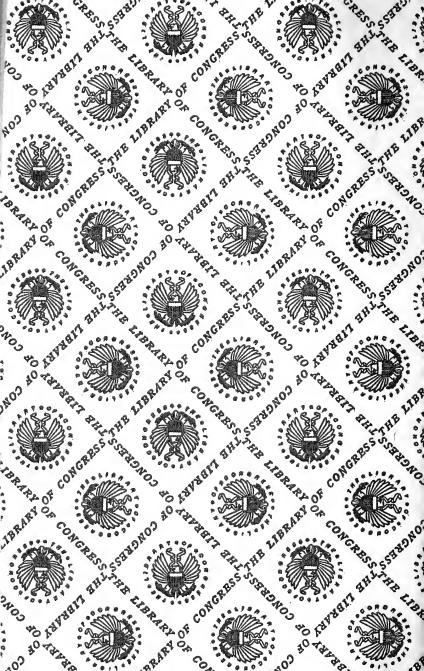
Thus may you prosper; and in whatever journey you may undertake, above all in the wide, devious and but once traveled journey of life, both now and forever may God be with you.

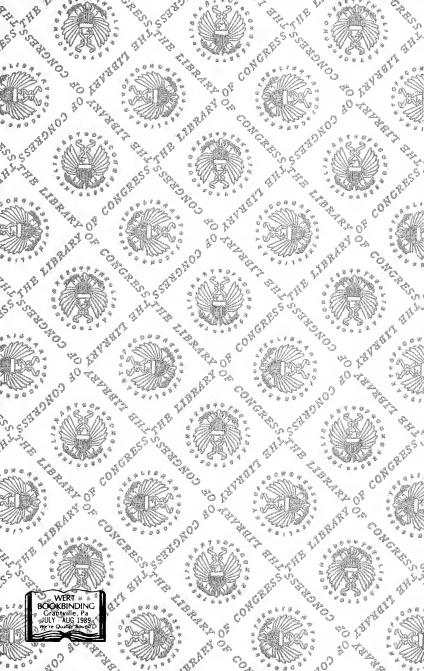
FINIS.

\*\*\*\*The author would explain that wherever quotations from foreign poems, placards, inscriptions and so forth, have been given with quotation marks, the translation so used is the author's own.\*\*\*

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